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An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for Sunday, October 18, 2015

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Lectionary Year B

Scripture: [Mark 10:35-45](#) [**Summary:** *Jesus invites questions about God from his disciples.*]

Supplies Needed: No supplies needed

ASK (a.k.a [The On-Ramp](#))

- Good morning!
- So let's pretend you are in school and your teacher says something in class that you don't understand.
- What do you think is a good thing for you to do at that point? (*Raise your hand and ask a question*)
- That's right - ask for help in understanding what's being taught
- Now, would the teacher be helping you if s/he said, "No, you cannot ask me questions"? (*No!*)
- Right. A teacher who won't let you ask questions about what's being taught isn't doing everything they can to help you learn.

TELL (a.k.a [The Freeway](#))

- So in today's scripture story we see two of Jesus' students, James and John, ask their teacher, Jesus, a question.
- And what is important to note is how Jesus responds to their question.
- First, he doesn't get mad at his students for asking him the question.
- And second, he answers their question, even if their question wasn't quite on-topic.
- However, the other students get upset with James and John for asking the off-topic question.
- But Jesus, since he wants his students to teach others about God just like he is doing with them, tells the other disciples to not stop people from asking questions.

- He tells them this by saying “whoever wishes to become [a] great [teacher] among you must be your servant.”

SHARE the Good News (a.k.a. *The Destination*)

- Now the problem with being willing to always answer your students' questions is that, as the teacher, you can't then control what your students are going to ask you.
- But (despite this lack of control), this is the good news for today: Jesus wanted his disciples to ask him about God
- And then, he wanted them to do the same thing with their own students - which is why he talks to them about serving instead of being served.
- So, if you have a question about God, ask your mom and dad, ask your grandparents, ask your Sunday school teacher, ask me, ask the pastor - and if we don't know the answer, then we will go ask others in the congregation as well.
- And that's perfectly okay - it is okay to ask each other questions about God.
- And that's the good news for today.
- Let's pray. This is a repeat-after-me prayer.

CLOSING Prayer

Dear God,

Dear God,

Thank you for Jesus...

Thank you for Jesus...

...who taught his disciples and us...

...who taught his disciples and us...

...that it's ok to ask each other...

...that it's ok to ask each other...

...questions about you.

...questions about you.

Please help us to do so.

Please help us to do so.

Thank you and amen