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An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for Sunday, September 20, 2015

17h Sunday after Pentecost

Lectionary Year B

Scripture: [Mark 9:30-37](#) [**Summary:** *When we accept God's help, our best becomes even better.*]

Supplies Needed: No supplies needed

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

- Good morning!
- Can you tell me how you got here, to the church building, today? (by car; walked)
- For those of you who got here by car - did *you* drive the car? (No)
- Why not? (can't drive)
- If you can't drive, how do you get to work in the mornings? (We don't work)
- You don't work!?! [Pause. Pretend to think]
- Well, if you can't drive and you don't work, then how do you get food to eat? (family gives it to me)
- You're telling me that other people give you food? (yes)
- Well, that's really nice of them, isn't it? (yes)

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

- So what all of my silly questions are meant to do is to help us remember that we need each other's help.
- I bring that up because in today's scripture story, we hear that Jesus' disciples were having an argument about who was the greatest and best.
- And being the greatest and best is often about how well you can do things on your own by yourself, right? Because if others are helping you, then you obviously aren't the best.
- But Jesus tells his disciples this, "Being the best and the greatest does not welcome me or God into your life."

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

- In other words, Jesus is telling his disciples to stop trying to be “know-it-all” and to instead be more like you: To be people who know that they could use some help from time to time.
- Because, when we know we need help, then we are much better at accepting help.
- This may seem like a simple thing, but this is a really important thing to remember.
- So I’m going to say it again:
- When we know we need God’s help, then we are much better at accepting God’s help.
- And when we *do* accept God’s help, then our best will become even better.
- 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 teaches and shows us...
...who teaches and shows us...

...how to do our best...
...how to do our best...

...by asking for and accepting...
...by asking for and accepting...

...your help.
...your help.

Thank you and amen