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An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for Sunday, December 6, 2015

2nd Sunday in Advent - Lectionary Year C

Scripture: [Luke 3:1-6](#)

[**Summary:** *Jesus makes the way of paying attention to God straight and simple*]

Supplies Needed: Print out the two provided "mazes"

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

- Good morning!
- To get started today, I have a question to ask you.
- *[Hold up maze #1]* Can you tell me what this is? (a maze)
- And what's the idea of a maze? (to figure out how to get from the start to the finish)
- Does this maze look like it might take you some time to figure out? (maybe a little bit)
- *[Hold up maze #2]* Alright, now, what about this maze? How long do you think this maze will take you? (not very long – actually, we've already finished it)
- Why is this maze so much easier than the other maze? (less turns and twists -- it's a straight shot)

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

- In today's scripture story, we hear John the Baptist tell the Israelites to get ready for someone (who we know will be Jesus) who will fill every valley and lower every mountain and make the crooked and rough ways into straight and smooth ways
- In other words, John the Baptist is saying, "How we think we are to pay attention to God has become all knotted and twisted like this first maze. But there is someone who is going to show us how to pay attention to God in a way that is straight and simple, not knotted and twisted."

SHARE the Good News (a.k.a. [The Destination](#))

- And guess what? Jesus did exactly what John the Baptist said Jesus was going to do!

- Jesus made the way to pay attention to God straight and simple by saying "Follow me."
- So then, instead of trying to figure out all the twists and avoid all the dead-ends, all we have to do is keep following Jesus and doing what Jesus did.
- When we do that, we'll be paying attention to God just like Jesus did
- 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 makes the way...

...who makes the way...

...of paying attention to you...

...of paying attention to you...

...straight and simple.

...straight and simple.

Please help us to actually do it!

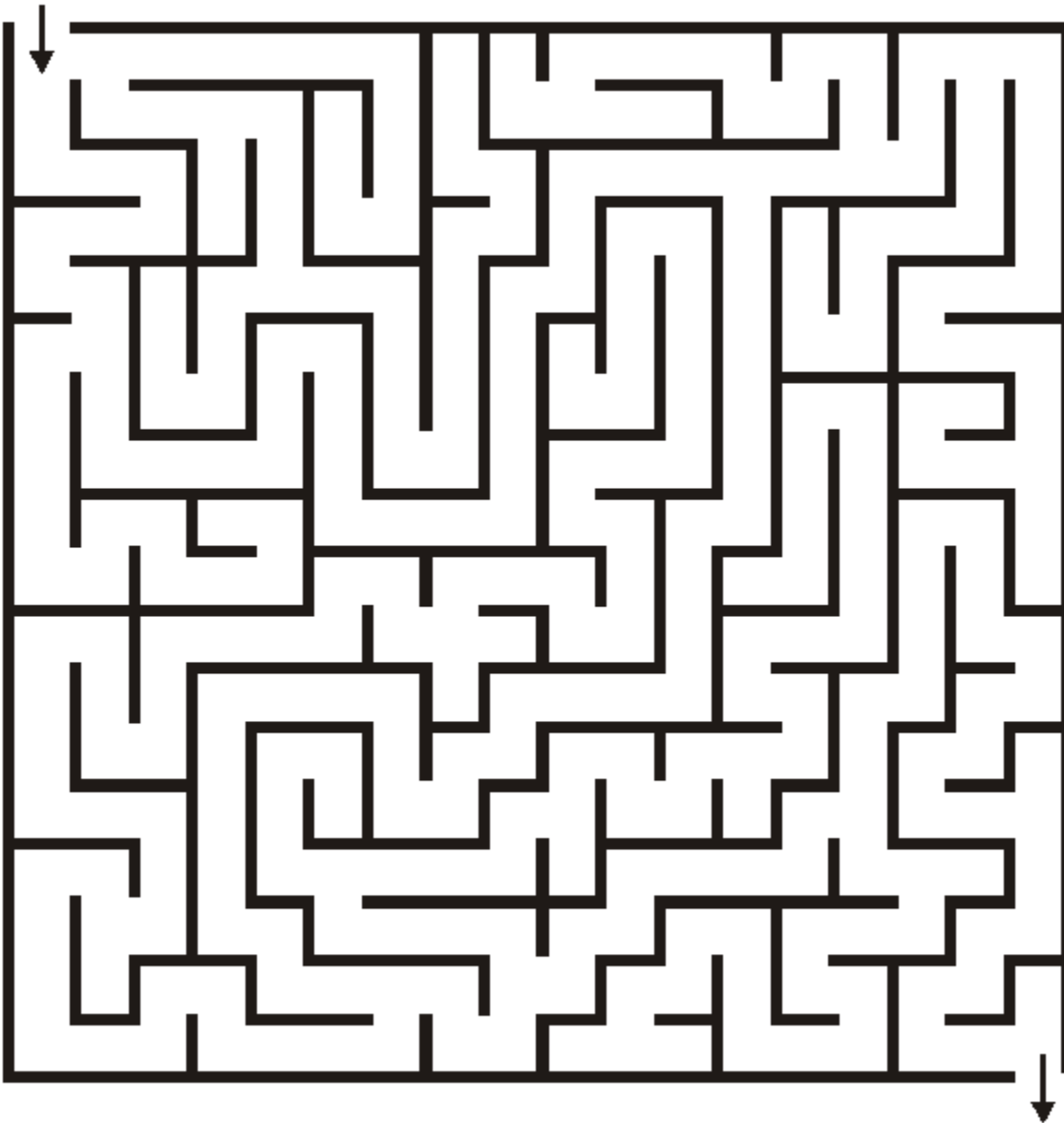
Please help us to actually do it!

Thank you and amen

(see next page for maze pictures)

Maze #1

START



FINISH

Maze #2

START →



→ **FINISH**