

An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for December 8, 2024

Second Sunday in Advent

Lectionary Year C

Scripture: [Luke 3:1-6](#) [**Summary:** *Jesus Shows the Way*]

Supplies Needed: Print out the two provided "mazes" on page 3 of this file.

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)
- What do you do with a maze? (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 (that person would be Jesus) who will fill every valley and lower every mountain. That same person would make the crooked and rough roads into straight and smooth roads.
- Those words might not make that much sense to us. So here's another way to understand those words.
- In other words, John the Baptist is saying, "You might think paying attention to God is all twisted like this maze [*hold up first maze*]. But there is someone who can show us how to pay attention to God in a straight and simple way" [*hold up second maze*].

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

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

- Jesus made paying attention to God straight and simple by saying "Follow me."
- Instead of having to figure out all the twists and turns [*hold up first maze, one more time*], we can choose to follow Jesus and do what Jesus did.
- When we do that, we'll be paying attention to God just like Jesus did – which makes the path forward seem pretty simple [*hold up second maze, one more time*] – like this.
- 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 shows the way...

...who shows the way...

...of paying attention to you...

...of paying attention to you...

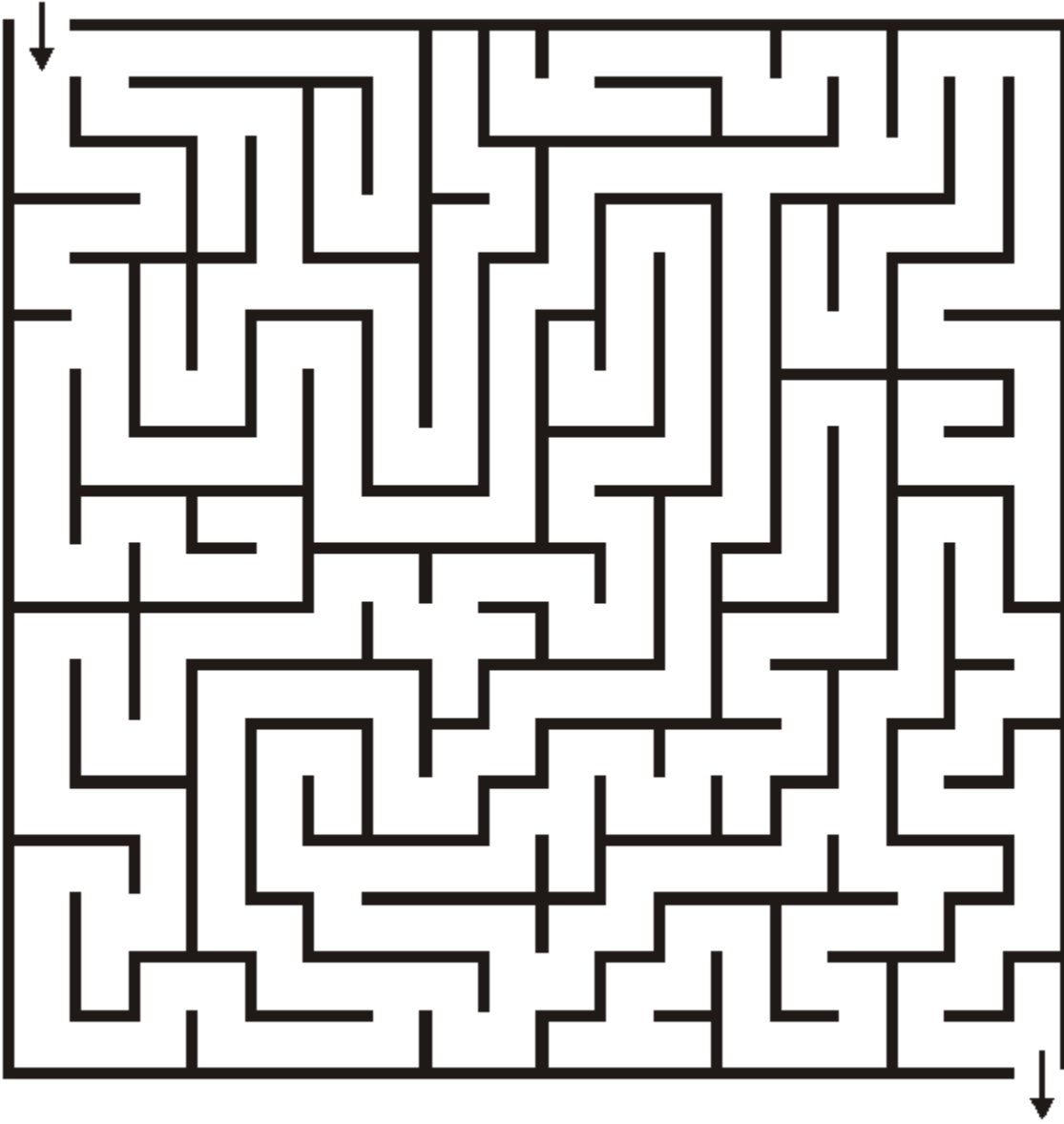
...in a simple and straightforward way.

...in a simple and straightforward way.

Thank you and Amen

Maze #1

START



FINISH

Maze #2

START →



→ **FINISH**