



Posted on Jan 23, 2016
Written by Nathanael Vissia

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An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for Sunday, February 7, 2016

Epiphany – Transfiguration Sunday – Lectionary Year C

Scripture: [Luke 9:28-36 \(37-43\)](#) [**Summary:** *The Transfiguration of Jesus*]

Supplies Needed: No supplies are needed

ASK (a.k.a *The On-Ramp*)

- Good morning!
- *[Hold up the flashlight]* Can you tell me what this is? (a flashlight!)
- What do you use it for? (To find things in the dark, for camping, to play flashlight wars, etc.)
- How do I turn it on? (you flip the switch)
- How about I do that now? *[Flip the switch - nothing will happen because you don't have the batteries in it]*
- Uh oh! Nothing happened! Why might that be? (The bulb is burned out! The batteries are dead! There are no batteries!)
- Batteries...? *[act confused]* Flashlights need batteries? (YES!)
- Ah – well, it just so happens that I took them out *[open up the flashlight and show everyone that there are indeed no batteries]*
- What do you think? If I put the batteries back in do you think the flashlight will work?
- *[put the batteries in it and turn the flashlight on]*
- Hey, it works – the flashlight is all bright and shiny now!

TELL (a.k.a *The Freeway*)

- In today's story, did you hear the part where Jesus also shines?
- That's right. Jesus goes up a mountain with his disciples to pray.

- And while Jesus is praying, while he's paying attention to God, that's when he lights up and shines.
- This story about Jesus, then, makes me think about this flashlight.
- I am reminded that just like this flashlight needs to be connected to an energy source to shine, so, too, did Jesus need to be connected to the energy source of God to shine.

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

- The exciting thing about today's story is that Jesus invites us to learn from him how to pay attention to God so that we too can shine like Jesus
- And when we do this, when we pay attention to God and connect to God's power and energy, we may not actually shine like Jesus did because, after all, even though Jesus prayed often, he only shines this one time.
- But, the way we *will* shine is by sharing God's love, healing, forgiveness and grace with each other.
- Today's story, known as the Transfiguration, reminds us that if we daily follow Jesus and copy how he paid attention to God, then we will learn to shine and share God's light with those around us in the same way 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 teaches us ...

...who teaches us...

...how to pay attention to you...

...how to pay attention to you...

...so that we can then shine...

...so that we can then shine...

...with your love, healing and mercy...

...with your love, healing and mercy...

...just like Jesus did.

...just like Jesus did.

Amen