



An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Based on scripture from Lectionary Year C

Written for Transfiguration Sunday, February 10, 2013

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Scripture: Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)

Supplies: You'll need a working flashlight with the batteries taken out. You'll want to have those batteries with you, though, as they will be needed later on in the message.

THE ONRAMP

- Good morning!
[Hold up the flashlight]
- Can you tell me what this is? (A: a flashlight!)
- What do you use it for? (A: to find things in the dark, for camping, to play flashlight wars, etc.)
- How do I turn it on? (A: you flip the switch)
[Flip the switch – nothing will happen because you don't have the batteries in it]
- Uh oh! Nothing happened! Why might that be? (A: the bulb is burned out! The batteries are dead! There are no batteries!)
- Batteries...? [act confused]
Flashlights need batteries? (A: YES!)

[Open up the flashlight and show everyone that there are indeed no batteries;
then put the batteries in it and turn it on]

THE FREEWAY

- In today's story, did you hear the part where Jesus lit up?
- The reason he lit up was because he was praying. He was paying attention to God.
- And just like a flashlight needs to be connected to an energy source to shine, so, too, do we need to be connected to an energy source to shine. And that energy source is God.
- When we pay attention to God and connect to God's power and energy, then we may not actually shine like Jesus did because, after all, even though Jesus prays often, he only lights up this once.
- Instead, we'll be able to see things that on our own we wouldn't normally be able to see.
 - Like how Jesus was able to see Moses and Elijah, right?
 - Or, later in the story, after Jesus comes down the mountain, he's the only one who can "see" how to help the father and heal the father's son.
- Jesus is able to do see and do these things in today's story because he is plugged into the power source that is God.

THE DESTINATION

- The good news is that when we pay attention to God, then we shine with God's light and power.

- 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.
- That's the Good News for today.

CLOSING PRAYER

- Let's pray. This is a repeat-after-me prayer.

Dear God,

Dear God,

Thank you for Jesus...

Thank you for Jesus...

...who shows us...

...who shows us...

...how to pay attention to you,

...how to pay attention to you,

...and shine with your love...

...and shine with your love...

...and power.

...and power.

Please help us...

Please help us...

...to learn...

...to learn...

...what Jesus teaches us....

...what Jesus teaches us....

...about you.

...about you.

In your name we pray...

In your name we pray...

Amen

Amen