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An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for Sunday, December 27, 2015

Christmas – 2nd Sunday after Christmas – Lectionary Year C

Scripture: [John 1:1-18](#) [**Summary:** *We can testify like John the Baptist*]

Supplies Needed: No supplies are needed

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

- Good morning!
- Have you heard that a certain movie is now at the movie theaters and that it is a glorious and amazing movie!?! (either they'll say "What movie" or they'll assume they know what you are talking about and they'll start telling you about it – both are fine responses)
- Although some of us might know about the movie, some of us might NOT know about the movie.
- Or, maybe you know about the movie, but you don't know why you should go see it.
- So how might you learn that there's a movie that you should go see? (other people talking about it; advertisements on youtube, other movies, tv)
- And what might you do if you saw this fantastic movie and liked it? Would you then tell others?
- Would you maybe pretend to be in your favorite parts of the movie and maybe repeat the lines?

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

- So all these ways that we learn about something like a new movie we might call, "Getting the word out."
- In today's scripture reading, we hear there's a new person out there who is sharing God's word, God's love, and God's light
- But we also hear that people don't know about this new person yet – just like some of us don't know about that movie that just came out.
- So we hear that John the Baptist is busy getting the word out about this new person (who we know is Jesus).

- The story uses a fancy word, though, for “getting the word out.” The story says that John the Baptist is **testifying** about Jesus.
- And the way John gets the word out about Jesus is that he tells the people what Jesus does and says and that’s why people should pay attention to what Jesus is saying and doing.
- This is just like if you saw a movie that you really liked and then you went and told others about it.

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

- So it might seem like an odd thing to say, but what today’s Bible story reminds us is that Jesus needs our help with getting the word out about what he’s sharing.
- But to share about Jesus in a really good way, we have to first know what Jesus is teaching and doing, just like we have to first see the movie before we can get the word out about the movie.
- And when we learn what Jesus is teaching and doing, and share what we’ve learned about Jesus with others...
- ...then we will be sharing the same love, light, and healing with others that Jesus shared
- And that’s the good news for today because this world can *a/ways* use more of God’s love, light and healing
- 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 shares your love, healing, and light...

...who shares your love, healing, and light...

...and please help us...

...and please help us...

...to share your love, healing, and light...

...to share your love, healing, and light...

...like Jesus did.

...like Jesus did.

Thank you and amen