An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for Sunday, January 6, 2019
Second Sunday after Christmas
Lectionary Year C

Scripture: John 1:1-18  [ Summary: Getting The Word Out ]

Supplies Needed: No supplies needed

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

• Good morning!

• Have you heard about the movie that just started showing at theaters? I hear it’s really good and everyone wants to see it.

• Do you know what movie I’m talking about!? (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)

• So, how did you learn about the movie that you just told me about? (other people talking about it; commercials online and on TV, other movies)

• And let’s say you went to see the movie and liked it – do you think you might tell others about it?

• All these ways that we learn and share information about something like a new movie we often call, “Getting the word out.”

TELL  (a.k.a. The Freeway)

• I wanted us to think about “getting the word out” because in today’s Gospel story, we hear there’s a new person who will be 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 didn’t know about that new movie.

• We then 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.

• John the Baptist testifies to the people about what Jesus is saying and doing and then tells the people they 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*)

• Today’s Bible story reminds us that there were people who got the word out about what Jesus was doing and saying, like John the Baptist.

• And, we can do the same thing as John the Baptist did – we too can tell others about Jesus, just like we tell others about a new movie.

• But to share with others who Jesus is, we have to first know who Jesus was – what he taught and what he did – just like we have to see the movie before we can get the word out about the movie.

• And, when we learn what Jesus taught and did, and then share what Jesus taught and did…

• …we will be sharing with others the same love, light, and healing that Jesus shared with others.

• That’s the good news for today. Let’s pray.

**CLOSING Prayer**

Dear God,

Thank you for Jesus…

…who shares your love, healing, and light.

Please help us…

…to share your love, healing, and light…

…like Jesus did.

Thank you and amen