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An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for Sunday, January 29, 2017

4th Sunday after Epiphany

Lectionary Year A

**Scripture:** [Matthew 5:1-12](#) [Summary: *Blessed Are Those Who Ask For God's Help* ]

**Supplies Needed:** No supplies needed

**ASK** (a.k.a. [The On-Ramp](#))

- Good morning
- Can you tell me some things that you can do that are easy for you to do?
- And do you like it when people try to help you with these things that you can already do? Or do you tell them that you can do it yourself?
- Are there, though, times when you would like someone to help you?
- When is that?
- When something is hard or difficult to do, right?
- And then when you receive that help, do you tell the person who is helping you to leave you alone, or do you let them work with you to do the thing you can't do by yourself?

**TELL** (a.k.a. [The Freeway](#))

- In today's scripture story, Jesus is talking to his disciples about the word "blessed."
- The word "blessed" can mean a couple of things.
- One thing it can mean is that God is with us.
- This is why Jesus says that people who want or go through difficult or hard things are blessed. Because those are people who are more likely to ask God to help them.
- And by helping them, God will be with them.

- For instance, peacemakers (people who want peace) want a very difficult thing because so often people are fighting in this world.
- And, people who mourn (who are sad), are going through a very hard time.
- Since these are hard things that the usually people cannot handle on their own, Jesus is saying that they are likely to ask for God's help, just like you tend to ask for help when you have something you can't do on your own.

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

- God is with us all the time.
- But, when things are easy for us, when things are going well for us, then we might forget about God or not invite God's help into our life, just like we don't want help from our family and friends when we can do something on our own.
- But, when things get hard or difficult for us, that is when we are more likely to say, "God, please help me. Please help me to know what to do."
- But, whether things are easy or hard for us, the Good News that Jesus is sharing with the disciples in today's scripture reading is that whenever we ask for and then accept God's help, that is when we are blessed.
- Let's Pray. This is a repeat-after-me prayer.

## **CLOSING Prayer**

**Dear God...**

Dear God...

**Thank you for always being with us.**

Thank you for always being with us.

**Help us to ask for your help...**

Help us to ask for your help...

**...in good and bad times...**

...in good and bad times...

**...and then help us *accept* your help.**

...and then help us *accept* your help.

**Thank you and Amen.**