



Posted on June 4, 2017
Written by Nathanael Vissia

This material is the copyrighted property of rfour.org. It is also free. Please use, improve and share this material. But do not ever pay for it, sell it or require any sharing of personal information for it.

An rfour.org Children's Time Message

For more information visit www.rfour.org/childrenstime.html

Written for Sunday, June 18, 2017

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Lectionary Year A

Scripture: [Matthew 9:35-10:6](#) [**Summary:** *Why Jesus Has Disciples*]

Supplies Needed: No supplies needed

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

- Good morning!
- I have a strange question for you – why do you eat?
- Because it tastes good (sometimes) and because it keeps you healthy and alive, right?
- I would say that those are very good reasons for why you eat.
- Here's another question for you, why do you sleep?
- Yes – I would say being tired and not able to stay awake and wanting to be rested for the next day and because your parents make you are all pretty good reasons for sleeping.
- There is a fancy word that describes the reasons for why we do something – and that word is *motivation*.
- Can you say that with me? *Motivation*
- Very good!
- To repeat myself, *motivation* is a fancy word that describes the reasons we give when asked questions about why we do what we do.

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

- I bring up this idea of motivation because in today's scripture story, Jesus shares his reasons, his *motivation*, for why he has disciples and why he is teaching them what he is teaching them.

- Now, we aren't told the personal reasons for why most of the *disciples* decided to be disciples of Jesus.
- But in today's scripture story, we do hear why *Jesus* chose to have disciples.
- What we hear is that Jesus has compassion on the people. We hear that he sees them as lost sheep and that he needs people to help him provide God's care, healing, and teaching to all those people.
- We then hear Jesus tell the disciples that that's exactly what they are going to do: They are going to go out as pairs, and they are going to care for others with God's compassion, healing, and authority.
- Note that the disciples are still learning, here. They aren't ready to do this sharing of God's compassion, healing, and teaching full-time yet.
- Instead, what Jesus is doing is giving the disciples a chance to experience the reasons for why they are learning what they are learning, which will probably give them even more motivation to keep learning.

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

- And guess what? Jesus' motivation for teaching his first disciples is the same motivation for us.
- We too are invited to be students of Jesus, to learn like the first disciples did.
- We are to learn how to receive God's love, compassion, healing and teaching so that we can then share God's love, compassion, healing and teaching.
- And you know what's really cool about this? Jesus thinks *you* can do these things!
- And you know what? I think you can, too!
- Thank you for the ways you are already learning how to receive and then share God's compassion, love, and healing.
- That's the good news for today.
- Let's pray – this is a repeat-after-me prayer (see CLOSING Prayer)

CLOSING Prayer

Dear God,

Dear God,

Thank you for Jesus...

Thank you for Jesus...

...who taught the disciples and us...

...who taught the disciples and us...

...how to receive your compassion, healing, and teaching...

...how to receive your compassion, healing, and teaching...

...so that we can then share...

...so that we can then share...

...your compassion, healing, and teaching.

...your compassion, healing, and teaching.