

An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for May 8, 2022

4th Sunday of Easter

Lectionary Year C

**Scripture:** [John 10:22-30](#) [ **Summary:** *Jesus Glues Us To God* ]

**Supplies Needed:** Two popsicle / craft sticks. A glue stick or a bottle of somewhat-quick drying glue.

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

- Good morning!
- I'm hoping you can help me, here: Can you tell me how to glue these two popsicle sticks together?
  - Should I just put the glue on one end of a popsicle stick and then wave the stick around? [*Do the actions of what you're saying as you say it*]
  - Should I put the glue on one end and press the two popsicle sticks together on this other end that is opposite of the glue? [*Do the actions of what you're saying as you say it*]
- No? I shouldn't do either of those things? What should I do instead? [*listen to answers*]
- Ok, so you're telling me that I should put some glue on the end of one popsicle stick and press the other popsicle stick against the place where I just put the glue?
- [*say in a light tone*] And why should I listen to you? Are you the glue masters? Are you the all-knowing glue experts? [*wait for responses*]
- [*say sincerely*] Oh...it sounds like you've done this before and it worked?
- So maybe I should try what you've said and then I'll find out if what you said is correct or not, right?
- OK. Let me do that right now
  - [*put glue on one end of the popsicle stick and place the other popsicle stick on top of the glue.*]
  - [*Hold the sticks together or place them behind you while you talk*]
- While we wait for the glue to dry, let's talk about today's scripture story.

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

- In today's story, Jesus talks about how no one can separate him from his followers.
- One of the reasons Jesus says this is because he knows that the more his followers learn about God from him, the more his followers will learn to trust Jesus.
- At first, this may not make sense to us – which is why I had you teach me something this morning
- As you've taught me about gluing these popsicle sticks together, I've learned that you know what you are talking about and I should trust what you are telling me.
- The same thing happened with Jesus' followers. The more they learned from Jesus, the more they learned to trust Jesus.
- But if his followers had never tried what Jesus said, then they'd probably not trust Jesus very much.
- We see this lack of trust with the Pharisees (A.K.A., "the Jews") in today's story.
- Since the Pharisees do not try what Jesus says about connecting with God, they don't learn to trust Jesus.

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

- Talking about learning...
- ...let's see how those popsicle sticks are doing
- *[the glue should be tacky enough that if you turn the two sticks over, the one stick won't separate from the other one]*
- Look at that! The glue is working and the two popsicle sticks are now joined together – thanks to your help!
- And, just like the glue helps these two popsicle sticks connect with each other, so too does Jesus help us connect with God.
- As we learn how to glue ourselves to God with Jesus' help, we learn to trust Jesus **and** we get to know God better.
- That's the good news for today. Let's pray.

### **CLOSING Prayer**

**Dear God,**

Dear God,

**Thank you for Jesus...**

Thank you for Jesus...

**...who helps us...**

...who helps us...

**...get glued to you...**

...get glued to you...

**...when we do what he says.**

...when we do what he says.

**Please help us do what he says.**

Please help us do what he says.

**Thank you and Amen**