

Children's Sermon

Matthew 10:40-42

Can you tell me a song that you know all the words to?

There's one that I know the words to, and maybe you do too.

Play "[This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine.](#)" This version is sung by older kids.

One of the things I really appreciate about songs is to be able to listen to someone sing it. Listening to someone sing is a gift of sound.

But then, especially if the song is easy, that person who can sing the song can also teach you and me how to sing it, too – which means we can sing the song whenever we want to hear it!

And, once you and I are able to sing it, that also means we can teach others how to sing the song, too! Songs, then, are gifts that keep on giving. We can share them in different ways and teach others how to share them, too.

Read Matthew 10: 40-42

In today's scripture story, Jesus is talking to his disciples about another type of gift that keeps on giving. Instead of singers and the songs they share, Jesus is instead talking about prophets and the words they share. In Jesus' time, people who shared God's words with others were called "prophets."

But prophets didn't just share words, they shared God's love, healing, and forgiveness, too. Jesus is telling his disciples that when they welcome prophets into their homes and lives, then they will be receiving the gifts that the prophet shares with others. But, Jesus reminds the disciples that a prophet can also teach them how they too can share God's words, love, and healing.

In many other stories, Jesus shares God's words, love, healing, and forgiveness with the people around him. And, just like the disciples, we are invited to learn from Jesus how to receive God's words, love, healing, and forgiveness, so that we can then share God's words, love, healing, and forgiveness. Once we start sharing those gifts with others, then we, too, are helping give the gifts from God that keep on giving.

This is a repeat-after-me prayer.

Dear God... **Dear God ...**

Thank you for Jesus... **Thank you for Jesus...**

...who teaches us... **who teaches us...**

...how to be your gift... **how to be your gift...**

...by receiving and then sharing... **by receiving and then sharing...**

...your forgiveness, healing, and love...**your forgiveness, healing, and love.**

Discussion

Is there anything that's puzzling or hard to understand?

Is there anything you wonder about?

How can we share God's love during these hard times?

Check out [this cartoon video](#) that explains systemic racism to kids.