



Worship Illustration: Script
The Adventures of the Bonzai Brothers
God of Wonders Part 1: Miracles of Jesus
Unit 1, Lesson 1

Jesus' First Miracle

John 2:1-11

Running time: Approximately 7 minutes

Set: The Worship Illustration series for God of Wonders Units 1-4 is set in and around a remote jungle airstrip on an uncharted island north of Togo. It is the home of the Bonzai Brother's Flight School. The set should in some way denote the beginning of a journey; a dilapidated airplane hanger covered with vines and cargo netting. There is a cargo crate that contains the Bible. When it is opened, lights flash and a sound effect or theme song plays. For added interest, build windows, entrances and levels where the characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

Characters: The main characters, Chauncey and Algernon Bonzai are former World War 1 British Air Force pilots turned missionaries. Pepper is a bird puppet (pelican or parrot).

Plot: In this scene, the Bonzai Brothers have just returned from a medical supplies delivery mission. Chauncey takes a moment to share the story of the day with us.

Costumes: Chauncey and Algeron: Brown Bomber jacket, khaki pants, aviator cap and goggles, work boots, scarf

Props: Cardboard airplane (worn by Chauncey), radio reception device

Sound effects (SFX):

1. Intro/outro music suggestion: "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin
2. Plane engine sputter and crash
3. Explosion
4. Ambulance sirens
5. Crackling sound waves
6. Cargo Crate theme song suggestion: "There Can Be Miracles" from Disney's The Prince of Egypt soundtrack

Visual effects (VFX):

1. Video Intro: Black and white footage of experimental flight and failures in the Wright Brothers era (available at ResourceWell.org)
2. Ambulance lights
3. Cargo crate contains the Bible. Whenever it is opened, light shines out and theme song plays
3. Scripture slide: ***This, the first of His miraculous signs, Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee. He thus revealed His glory, and His disciples put their faith in Him.***
John 2:11
6. Closing Slide: "It's incredible but true, what the God of Wonders can do!"

Adaptations:

1. Sound Effects: instead of using recorded effects, have children make the sounds
2. Voiceovers: may be spoken off stage
3. This illustration is also available in storybook form at ResourceWell.org

The Bonzai Brothers
Unit 1, Lesson 1
Jesus' First Miracle
John 2:1-11

(VFX: Bonzai Brothers Video intro)

Video Intro Voiceover

Since the dawn of time, man has longed to fly like the birds! (image of man with wings trying to fly) **Over in England, those amazing twin flyboys, the Bonzai Brothers, were making their first flight...and crashing** (image of a failed test flight, image of another failed test flight), **and crashing ... and crashing** (image of another failed test flight)...**and, of course...crashing!** (image of another failed test flight) **Could it be possible that God would now use their "special talents," in the remotest places on Earth.** (animated plane flying over map) **Journey with us now to their island getaway to see what has become of the long lost Bonzai Brothers! And see the Wonders that God can do!** (SFX: "The Entertainer")

Algernon (makes his way through the crowd wearing airplane wings) **Make way, coming through! Hullo. Colonel Bonzai here! Just flew in from the Fiji Islands and boy are my arms tired! What, what? I love that one! I just crash landed my plane on the other side of the island but I lost contact with my brother, Chauncey. You haven't seen him, have you?** (SFX: Plane sputters and dives to a crash) **Uh-oh that's him now! Duck and cover!** (SFX/VFX: Ambulance lights and sirens)

Chauncey (appears on a rooftop) **Tally ho! I say, that was quite a drop! Fortunately for me, I landed on my head!**

Algernon
Hullo, Colonel Bonzai!

Chauncey
Hullo, Colonel Bonzai! What are you doing way down there? Don't tell me you landed on the landing strip!

Algernon
Oh no! Heavens no, I crashed in the ocean on the other side of the island.

Chauncey
Ah! You always did love the water.

Algernon
Yes, good thing I'm an excellent swimmer.

Chauncey
Oh, speaking of water, I understand today's Bible story is all about water.

Algernon
Is that right?

Chauncey
Yes, I stopped by Flight Command on my way back from dropping off those medical supplies. I've got the Scripture right here.

Algernon
Oh, Chauncey do open it up!

Chauncey
Just a moment there, Algernon! First allow us to introduce ourselves to the children. I am Colonel Bonzai.

Algernon
And I am Colonel Bonzai, Colonel Algernon Bonzai, and this is my twin brother, Colonel Chauncey Bonzai.

Chauncey
Tally ho! We are pilots, former air force pilots.

Algernon
Yes, and when we retired we became missionary pilots!

Chauncey
Yes, we deliver supplies to missionaries all over the world!

Algernon
And we do mean ALL over. We venture to places that other pilots are far too smart to travel to!

Chauncey

Yes, and God blesses us with lots of Bible stories we can share all over the globe!

Algernon

Say, Chauncey—let’s read one now! Where did we put that Bible. AH yes, I believe it in this Cargo Crate! (opens Cargo Crate)
(SFX: “There Can Be Miracles,” VFX: Light shines from Cargo Crate)

Chauncey

Good show Algie! Let’s have a look at the book of John, chapter two. You know, it’s the story about the first miracle of Jesus. The wedding at Cana, you see, Jesus and Mary, His mother, and His disciples were all invited to this wedding.

Algernon

Oh, I do love a good wedding! The food and the dancing and that delicious wedding cake! Weddings always make me cry. (weeps uncontrollably)

Chauncey

Cheer up, Algie, weddings are happy occasions, especially when we toast the bride and groom! But, at this particular celebration there was a problem, the wine ran out early!

Algernon

Oh no! Say it isn’t so! What did they do?

Chauncey

The better question is what did Jesus do? There were six large, stone jars nearby so Jesus told the servants “Fill the jars with water.” Then He told them to serve some to the master. When the master tasted it, that water had turned into the most delicious wine he had tasted all night! The Bible says: (VFX: Scripture slide) *This, the first of His miraculous signs, Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee. He thus revealed His glory, and His disciples put their faith in Him. John 2:11*

Algernon

Wow, that story is so full of wonder!

Chauncey

Well, we serve the God of Wonders!

Algernon

Ah true, but I wonder how the people felt when they saw Jesus do that miracle? The Bible says the disciples put their faith in Him. But, hadn’t they already put their faith in Him?

Chauncey

Up until that time, they liked Jesus very much. They even trusted Him or they wouldn’t have been following Him. But that day they saw something special. They saw Jesus do something only God could do!

Algernon

A wondrous miracle!

Chauncey

Amen! That was when they realized He was more than who they first thought He was. He was more than just a good leader and a godly man. This miracle revealed His glory.

Algernon

Glory! That means something that shows how great God is! Changing water into wine showed them Jesus is Lord! Is that why they put their faith in Him?

Chauncey

Absolutely! And we can do the same thing! You know, kids, Jesus did so many wonderful miracles in His lifetime! This year we’re going to be studying the God of Wonders and learning about all of His miracles.

Algernon

I can’t wait! And just like the disciples, we will all come to realize that we serve a mighty God! In fact, “It’s incredible but true, what the God of Wonders can do!”

Chauncey (VFX: Closing slide)

**Oh, I like that! I like that quite a little bit.
Let's all say that together: "It's incredible
but true, what the God of Wonders can
do!"**

Algernon

**Well, Chauncey, we'd best be going. We've
got to get some medical supplies to those
Missionaries in Namibia!**

Chauncey

**Righty-O! And we can pick up another
Bible lesson on the way back!**

Algernon

Good show, Chauncey!

Chauncey

**Drop in next week for another miracle
from the life of Jesus!**

Algernon

**We'll never run out of the great things the
Lord has done. Ta-ta, Kiddies!**

Chauncey

Tally ho!

(SFX: "The Entertainer")

(exit)