Peter and the Lame Man

Acts 3:1-10, 16; 4:7-12

Running time: Approximately 6 minutes

Set: The set for Units 1-4 is designed to look like the interior of the spaceship Skylab Omega. There are colored Plexiglas panels with lights behind them, computer parts, knobs, buttons, and a built-in view screen. The Command Center is on B-deck (upper level or stage right). A-deck (lower level or stage left) has a sliding entrance upstage center and a teleport. There is a tube where messages and the Bible can be received. The Virtual Bible is a screen or monitor displaying the Bible verses in the script. For extra fun, build windows where characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

Characters: Commander Cosmos is the pilot of Skylab Omega. He is a strong, confident leader with a bit of a strut in his walk. Dr. Helga Sominex is a quirky scientist who has a tendency to fall asleep mid-sentence.

Plot: Commander Cosmos hurts his leg. He tells Dr. Sominex the story of how Jesus healed a lame man. We learn that the Holy Spirit of God has the power to do miracles even to this day.

Costumes: Cosmos wears a space suit and boots. Sominex wears a lab coat, gray wig, and glasses.

Props: Clipboard, Bible

Sound effects (SFX):
1. Intro/outro music suggestion: Space-themed songs
2. Fanfare
3. Plexiglas window suggestion: Handel's Messiah "Hallelujah Chorus". Music plays when window is opened to reveal Bible.
4. Computer keyboard typing sounds. (For more humorous elements, add SFX such as cowbell, foghorn, etc.)
5. Virtual Bible theme suggestion: "Close Encounters" Theme

Visual effects (VFX):
1. Video Intro featuring space ships and rockets is available at ResourceWell.org
2. Sliding Plexiglas window holds the Bible. When opened, light shines out and music plays.
3. Scripture Slide (on Virtual Bible): ***By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see. Acts 3:16***
4. Closing Slide: "Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever!"
5. Flashing lights and fog
6. Fall back slide: Traveling rocket ship

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 located at ResourceWell.org.

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Commander Cosmos
Unit 1, Lesson 3
Peter and the Lame Man
Acts 3:1-10; 16; 4:7-12

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Voiceover (VFX: short video intro)
Scripture … the finest frontier. These are the voyages of Skylab Omega. Its five month mission to spread the Gospel to the galaxy, to share God's love with civilization, to boldly go where one Savior has gone before! Come with us now as we blast through the Bible with Commander Cosmos: Space Ranger!

Sominex (enters)
Hello, hello everybody! It's me, Dr. Sominex. I have something very important to do. I just can't remember what it is…oh yes! I'm supposed to announce the Commander! (SFX: fanfare) **All hands on deck for Commander Cosmos…** (snores)

Cosmos
Space Ranger! Say Space Ranger!

Sominex
Huh? What? Oh, hi Commander!

Cosmos
I can't talk to you until you finish announcing me.

Sominex
Oh, right! Commander Cosmos: Space Ranger!

Cosmos (steps into room and trips)
Ow, ouch, ooh, ah!

Sominex (claps)
That was excellent! Do it again!

Cosmos
I'm hurt! I'm not going to do it again! I think I broke my leg! Do something…quick!

Sominex
What do you want me to do?

Cosmos
I don't know! You're the doctor!

Sominex
I'm not that kind of doctor!

Cosmos
Well, help me up! (grabs his leg)

Sominex
Okay, on the count of three. One, two…(snores)

Cosmos
Dr. Sominex! Are you sleeping? Dr. Sominex!

Sominex (popping up and dropping leg)
The galaxy has an infinite number of stars!

Cosmos
Oww! I'm seeing stars! You dropped my leg!

Sominex
Sorry! Let me help you over to the chair. (pulls him by the leg)

Cosmos
Not that leg! That's the sore one!

Sominex
Sorry! What can I do for you?

Cosmos
Heal me!

Sominex
Only Jesus can heal.

Cosmos
That's right. But Jesus doesn't have to be there in person to heal you… He works through the faith of those who believe in His name.

Sominex
No!

Cosmos
Yes.

Sominex
No!

Cosmos
Yes!

Sominex
No!

Cosmos
He does and I can prove it. Get out the Bible and I'll show you.

Sominex
I'll get it out, right now! (Opens window, SFX: "Hallelujah Chorus," VFX: Beam of light shines from box) (snores)

Cosmos
Dr. Sominex? Dr. Sominex!

Sominex
Oxygen was discovered by Joseph Priestly in 1774!

Cosmos
That's interesting. Could I see the flight manual?

Sominex
Sure. (Gives Bible to Cosmos)

Cosmos
One day Peter and John were on their way to the temple to pray when they met a man who could not walk, begging for money.

Sominex
Did they give him any money?

Cosmos
Nope!

Sominex
But the poor guy couldn't walk. Why didn't they help him?

Cosmos
Oh, they helped him. They gave him something better. Peter said, *"Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk."*

Sominex
Did the man walk?

Cosmos
Oh, he walked and he jumped and he ran and he praised God!

Sominex
No!

Cosmos
Yes!

Sominex
No!

Cosmos
Yes!

Sominex
No!

Cosmos
Yes!

Sominex
That was so nice of Peter and John to heal that guy.

Cosmos
They didn't do it.

Sominex
You just told me they did.

Cosmos
They did the act of healing but even Peter knew that it wasn't their power that made the man walk. I'll access the "Virtual Bible" and we can read what Peter told the people: (SFX: Virtual Bible Theme, VFX: Scripture Slide) *By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see.*

Sominex
They should have told everybody about the power in Jesus' name.

Cosmos
They did! They told the whole town that Jesus is the Lord who died to take their sins away!

Sominex
And did the town treat them like heroes?

Cosmos
Nope, they threw them in jail.

Sominex
What? That's terrible!

Cosmos
I know! They were the first believers to be arrested for sharing their faith.

Sominex
That's a horrible thing!

Cosmos
Well, it might have been, but God can even turn bad things into good! Being arrested gave them the chance to tell all of the elders and priests and leaders that Jesus is Lord!

Sominex
Wow! Back in those days God sure did some awesome miracles!

Cosmos
What do you mean "back in those days?" We still have the Holy Spirit alive in us today!

Sominex
So we can do miracles in Jesus name?

Cosmos
No – Jesus does the miracles when we call on His name. After all… Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever! We'd better teleport down to Sick Bay and get this leg checked out.

Sominex
And we can pray for your healing!

Cosmos
Good idea! See you next time, kids. (VFX: Flashing lights and fog, SFX: Outro music, VFX: Fallback slide)

(Exit)