

WORSHIP ILLUSTRATION:

Lesson 51, Unit 10

THE LOVE SHUTTLE**Shepherds and Angels See the Promise of Peace Fulfilled**

Running time: Approximately 6 minutes

Bible Story: Luke 2:1-20

Set: The set for Prophets and Promises Unit 7-10 is "The Love Shuttle," an old rusted out space freighter that has been spruced up with psychedelic 1960's design. A playground slide or curved tube leads into the room; this is the time tube. From the upper level (A Deck) a fireman's pole takes us down to B deck. There is a lit up power panel called the Power Source that conceals the Bible. For added interest, build windows, entrances and levels where the characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

Characters: Dr. Woodstock P. Havens is a hippie, inventor who has traveled forward in time aboard the Love Shuttle. Shiloh is Dr. Woodstock's nephew from 1973. He has a very relaxed attitude and is a bit naïve and clueless. "Handsome" is a human hand (Actor's entire body is hidden except for his hand.) Handsome assists everyone by handing them props as needed.

Plot:

Shiloh feels home sick. Woodstock tells him how Mary and Joseph were away from home when Jesus was born. We hear how the angels and shepherds spread God's message of peace. We learn Jesus brought peace to earth just as God had promised.

Costumes:

Long wigs, tie-dyed shirt, bell-bottom pants, vest, headband, colored glasses.

Props:

Bible in Power Source, gingerbread cookie, remote control, calendar.

Sound effects: (SFX)

1. Intro music suggestion: "The Power of Love" by Huey Lewis and the News
2. Voiceover: Time Travel Alert countdown (Song: "Up, Up and Away" by The 5th Dimension)
3. Power Source suggestion: "We've Got the Power" by Snap.
4. Three bell rings: Handsome's entrance
5. Trumpet fanfare
6. Outro music suggestion: "The Power of Love" by Huey Lewis and the News or "For Unto Us" (Unit 10 Bible Memory Verse Song located at childrensministrywarehouse.net, or traditional Christmas hymn such as "Angels We Have Heard on High".

Visual effects: (VFX)

1. Video Intro: features space ships and rockets (available at www.childrensministrywarehouse.net)
2. Power Source holds the Bible. Whenever it is opened, light (L.E.D.) shines out and theme music plays. (Song: "We've Got the Power" by Snap.)
3. **Promise slide: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests."**
Luke 2:14
4. **Closing Slide:**
"No matter where you are in time, God is good all the time!"

SFX/VFX Signals:

Promise signal: fanfare, flashing lights

THE LOVE SHUTTLE: Lesson 51
Angels and Shepherds See the
Promise of Peace Fulfilled
Luke 2:1-20

(VFX: Love Shuttle Video intro)

Shiloh (enters on upper level)

Hey, Merry Christmas, Dudes and Dudettes! I'll be right down! (slides down fire pole) **We've been getting ready for our first Christmas aboard "The Love Shuttle," and I know I should be happy, but it just seems like something's missing.**

(SFX: 3 rings. Handsome hands him a gingerbread cookie) **Thanks**

Handsome! That makes me feel a little better, but I just wish I had more Christmas spirit.

Woodstock (enters on upper level)

Ho, ho, ho! Merry Christmas! Stay there, dudes! I'm coming down! (slides down pole) **Merry Christmas, Shiloh. Guess what I've got?**

Shiloh

The flu?

Woodstock

No, dude! Virtual Christmas cards!

(SFX: 3 rings Handsome pops up with remote control) **Flash them up there, Handsome.** (VFX: picture of Christmas tree and banner title: Merry Konga-looshmas!) **This one's from**

Ambassador Nofutu! (VFX: picture of sleeping Dr. Sominex and banner title: Peace on Earth) **This one's from Dr.**

Sominex. (VFX: psychedelic banner title: "God so loved the world...") **And this one is from your mom, Ophelia.**

Shiloh (crying)

That is so sad...

Woodstock

I thought it would make you happy to hear from home.

Shiloh (cries louder)

It just makes me homesick!

Woodstock

Oh, relax, Shiloh! I know what will cheer you up, the best Christmas card of all time, the Power Source. Here, let me get it out!

(SFX: "We Got the Power")

(LGTS: LED shine from Power Source)

Shiloh

I don't know if anything can cheer my lonely heart.

Woodstock

God's Word will! You know you're not the first person who was away from home on Christmas. Joseph and Mary had to go all the way to Bethlehem.

Shiloh

Why?

Woodstock

The Governor said everyone had to go back to their hometown so they could count all the people. Joseph's family was from a little town called Bethlehem.

Shiloh

But, I thought Mary was going to have a baby.

Woodstock

She was! And the time came for the baby to be born.

Shiloh

I remember this story. There was no room at the inn and she had to give baby Jesus a manger for a bed.

Woodstock

That's right, Dude! Mary and Joseph were far away from home but that didn't stop God from keeping His promise.

Shiloh

You mean the promise that He would send a Savior.

Woodstock

That's right.

Shiloh

I'll bet everyone was happy about that.

Woodstock

I know the shepherds were happy when they heard the "Good News!"

Shiloh

What shepherds?

Woodstock

There were shepherds living in the fields and an angel showed up and told them where to find Jesus.

Shiloh

Whoa, they met an angel?

Woodstock

They sure did. And not only that, the Bible says a whole company of heavenly host appeared. They are the army of heaven. They were praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests." ([SFX/VFX](#): Promise Signal, Promise slide)

Shiloh

Yeah dudes, glory to God, man!

Woodstock

And peace to men on whom His favor rests.

Shiloh

Yeah, God wants us all to give Him glory!

Woodstock

And He gives peace to men on whom His favor rests.

Shiloh

Totally. But who are the men on whom God's favor rests?

Woodstock

People who God is pleased with. Not just men, but every man, woman and child who believes in Jesus. Dude, that's us! God is pleased with all who believe, and He loves us so much that He sends...

Shiloh

Peace! I get it! That's what Isaiah meant when he called Jesus the "Prince of Peace!"

Woodstock

Right on, dude! Before Jesus was born, people were separated from God by their sin. They had no peace with God, because they were fighting against doing things God's way. That's called sin!

Shiloh

But Jesus brought peace between believers and God.

Woodstock

That's what all of the prophets were pointing us to... "Peace on Earth."

Shiloh

And that peace can only be found in knowing Jesus, our Savior.

Woodstock

Amen. Jesus came to bring peace between God and us, just as God had promised.

Shiloh

Yeah, and when we have peace with God, we have peace with each other, too.

Woodstock

That's right! Even enemies can get along if they both decide to follow Jesus.

Shiloh

Whoa, that's the power of love...the love of Jesus!

Woodstock

That's what really brings glory to God!

Shiloh

So, what did the shepherds do when they heard Jesus came to bring peace?

Woodstock

They hurried and found Mary and Joseph and the baby and then they spread the word about what the angel said.

Shiloh

Man, I wish I was a shepherd.

Woodstock

We are kind of like the shepherds. We spread God's word to all of His sheep. And there's one more thing we're going to do. Read the last part.

Shiloh

"The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen..." Uncle Woody, does this mean what I think it does? Are we going home?

Woodstock

You got it, Dude! (SFX: 3 rings, Handsome hands him the calendar)
We're going home for Christmas!
We're taking the Love Shuttle back to 1973!

Shiloh

Out of sight! I have so many groovy stories to tell my friends about all of the far out prophets we met and how they all point us to the Prince of Peace.

Woodstock

You know what? You dudes and dudettes can tell your friends and family those same stories this Christmas. I bet you it brings them peace.

Shiloh

Speaking of peace, we've gotta peace out and get back to our time. It's been great knowing you, little dudes.

Woodstock

Yeah, we love you guys and always remember, "No matter where you are in Time." Say it with us, "God is Good all the Time!" Merry Christmas! (SFX: Outro music "The Power of Love") (They exit.)

(VFX slide: Peace on Earth)