



**Worship Illustration: Script**  
**Commander Cosmos**  
**Prophets & Promises 1: Acts - Revelation**  
**Unit 2, Lesson 6**

# God Changes Saul's Heart

**Acts 9:1-9; 13-20**

**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:** Lieutenant Ruby Starlight is the first mate. She is young and bubbly and always ready to learn. Ambassador Nofutu is the quirky, child-like representative from Planet Jerusalem. He is very silly, high energy, and full of curiosity. For fun, add an unusual accent.

**Plot:** Ruby tells Ambassador Nofutu about Saul's encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus. We learn that will forgive and change the heart of anyone who believes in His Son!

**Costumes:** Ruby wears a space suit and boots. Nofutu wears a crazy patterned shirt, shiny tunic, silk pantaloons, silly hat, and clogs.

**Props:** Clipboard, Bible, remote control

**Sound effects (SFX):**

1. Intro/outro music suggestion: Space-themed songs
2. Computer Voiceover: Voice with echo that recites scripture
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 a 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): ***But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel." Acts 9:15***
5. Closing Slide: "Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever!"
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 at ResourceWell.org

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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!**

**Ruby** (enters)

**Hey guys! Good to see you. Ambassador Nofutu decided to stay on board Skylab Omega to learn more about Jesus and we are just about worn out trying to keep up with all his questions! He's finally taking a nap, so I thought I would sneak up here and study the Bible so I can get some more answers. Let me get the Bible out, right now.** (Opens window, SFX: "Hallelujah Chorus," VFX: Beam of light shines from window.)

**Nofutu** (runs in)

**It's story time! I heard the music Bible! Read me a story, please, please!**

**Ruby**

**Okay, okay. Calm down. I'll find you a story. Oh, here's a good one. This is about when God changed Saul's heart.**

**Nofutu**

**Why? Was it broken?**

**Ruby**

**Well, you could say that, in a way. You see, Saul was a powerful Jewish leader, but he didn't believe that Jesus was God's Son. In fact, he hated the followers of Jesus.**

**Nofutu**

**No! Don't be hatin', Saul!**

**Ruby**

**He *was* hating! Saul was a devoted Jew and he thought that Christians were troublemakers. He persecuted them.**

**Nofutu**

**No! He hated them just because their purses were cute?**

**Ruby**

**Not cute purses! I said persecution!**

**Nofutu**

**Oh no! Not persecution – anything but persecution! What is persecution?**

**Ruby**

**Persecution is treating people unfairly just because of who they are or what they believe. Saul had some of Jesus' followers thrown in jail for no good reason.**

**Nofutu**

**Whoa, I bet God locked Saul away forever for that one.**

**Ruby**

**No, but he did get Saul's attention in a way he would never forget!**

**Nofutu**

**Did God send him a text message?**

**Ruby**

**Not quite.**

**Nofutu**

**A twitter?**

**Ruby**

**No! But, when Saul was on his way to Damascus, he saw the light.**

**Nofutu**

**What is a Damascus?**

**Ruby**

**It's a city. Saul thought that he might find some followers of Jesus there. He wanted to throw them in prison, so, guess where Saul went?**

**Nofutu**  
To Damascus?

**Ruby**  
That's right!

**Nofutu**  
I got one! What happened next?

**Ruby**  
Let's have the computer show us?

**Nofutu**  
The computer can do that?

**Ruby**  
Oh yes, computer, please show us what happened on Saul's journey!

**Computer Voiceover**  
Aye, aye, Miss Starlight.

**Ruby**  
*As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. (VFX: Bright spotlight moves over audience and focuses on center stage) He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him...*

**Computer Voiceover**  
*"Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"*

**Nofutu**  
I didn't do it! It wasn't me!

**Ruby**  
No, no! God's not talking to you! That's what God said to Saul!

**Nofutu**  
Wowsie-woo-woo! That was scary!

**Ruby**  
Imagine how Saul must have felt! He was blinded by the light and fell to the ground.

**Nofutu**  
Manfred Mann! That would make me very nervous! What did Saul do?

**Ruby**  
He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" Now, listen to what the Lord said.

**Computer Voiceover**  
"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

**Nofutu**  
God wanted him to go into Damascus?

**Ruby**  
Yes and when Saul stood up, he couldn't see, so his traveling buddies led him to Damascus. Saul waited there for three days!

**Nofutu**  
What do you think God was doing?

**Ruby**  
I think he was calling Saul to serve Jesus!

**Nofutu**  
But, Saul had been hurting God's people. I can't believe that God would give someone like that such an important job.

**Ruby**  
Neither could Ananias!

**Nofutu**  
I thought we were talking about Saul! Who was Laryngitis?

**Ruby**  
Not Laryngitis! Ananias! He was a follower of Jesus who had a vision. Ananias was afraid of Saul but in this vision Jesus told Ananias to go place his hands on Saul, so Saul could see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

**Nofutu**  
If that were me, I would say, "No way, Hosanna! That guy Saul likes to pick on Christians, like me!"

**Ruby**

Ananias didn't want to go either, but let's see what Jesus told him in the virtual Bible.

**Nofutu**

Ooh! Can I do the beepity boops?

**Ruby** (hands him remote control)

**Have a blast!** (SFX: Virtual Bible theme) (VFX: Scripture Slide) ***But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel.***

**Nofutu**

Did Tonsillitis go to Saul?

**Ruby**

Ananias! He did and Saul was able to see again. And for the first time in his life, Saul saw Jesus with his heart!

**Nofutu**

How do you know that?

**Ruby**

Because the Bible says that at once Saul began to preach that Jesus was the Son of God.

**Nofutu**

So...God chose Saul to spread His Word even though Saul had been a naughty, naughty boo-boo?

**Ruby**

God loved Saul. God had always had a plan for Saul's life.

**Nofutu**

But Saul was a sinner. Are you telling me that God even loves sinners?

**Ruby**

God loves all people and He will forgive and change the heart of anyone who believes in His Son!

**Nofutu**

Well, if God can forgive a naughty boy like Saul, do you think God could change my heart?

**Ruby**

I think He would love to change your heart! Let's go down to the chapel and I can pray with you right now! After all...

**Nofutu**

Ooh, can I say it? Jesus is the same on Mother's Day, Valentine's Day, and my birthday! (SFX: Outro music, VFX: Fall back slide)

**Ruby**

We've got to work on our Bible verses. So long, kids!

**Nofutu**

Bye, bye, my friends! (exit)