



**Worship Illustration: Script  
Commander Cosmos  
Prophets & Promises 1: Acts - Revelation  
Unit 2, Lesson 7**

# Saul Escapes from Damascus

**Acts 9:19b-25**

**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. 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:** Lieutenant Ruby hides in a basket to escape Nofutu's questions. Commander Cosmos finds him and tells him about how Saul hid in a basket to escape the angry leaders in Damascus and go on to spread God's Word in Jerusalem. We learn that the Holy Spirit will give us the power to boldly share the "Good News" wherever God leads.

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

**Props:** Large basket (hamper), light saber, Bible

**Sound effects (SFX):**

1. Intro/outro music suggestion: Space-themed songs
2. Fanfare
3. Computer Voiceover: "Aye, Aye Commander."
4. Plexiglas window suggestion: Handel's Messiah "Hallelujah Chorus." Music plays when window is opened to reveal Bible.
5. Computer keyboard typing sounds. (For more humorous elements, add SFX such as a cowbell, foghorn, etc.)
6. 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): ***Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Christ. Acts 9:22***
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

**Commander Cosmos**  
**Unit 2, Lesson 7**  
**Saul Escapes From Damascus**  
**Acts 9:19b -25**

**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 near large basket)

**Hello kids. Lieutenant Ruby Starlight here! You haven't seen Ambassador Nofutu, have you? The good news is that last week, he prayed for God to change His heart! The bad news is now he has more questions than ever! I can't keep up. I'm going to hide in this basket. If he comes looking for me, don't tell him I'm in here.** (hides in basket) (SFX: Fanfare)

**Cosmos** (enters)

**Hello, Space Cadets! Commander Cosmos: Space Ranger, at your service! I am so grateful to have my leg healed! Such a joy to walk around the ship again.** (sees basket) **What is this? Someone left a huge basket of laundry right in the middle of B Deck. I'll just take this down to the laundry room.** (tries to lift it) **Ooh, this is heavy!** (tries again.) **Wow! What are they washing, cinder blocks?** (kicks basket)

**Ruby**  
**Ouch!**

**Cosmos**

**Did you hear that? It must be a spy from the planet Pharis!** (takes light saber and taps sides of basket) **I've got you, spy! Take that and that!**

**Ruby**  
**Ow, you stop that!**

**Cosmos** (to basket)

**Aha, there is a spy! Knock, knock.**

**Ruby**  
**Who's there?**

**Cosmos**  
**Cosmos.**

**Ruby**  
**Cosmos who?**

**Cosmos**  
**Cos' most of the time I ring the doorbell! Ha-ha, I crack me up!** (opens lid) **Now come out of there with your hands up, spy!** (Lt. Ruby stands up) **Lt. Starlight? What are you doing in the laundry basket? That's no way to get your uniform clean!**

**Ruby**  
**I wasn't putting my uniform in the wash. I was hiding.**

**Cosmos**  
**Hiding? From what?**

**Ruby**  
**From Ambassador Nofutu.**

**Cosmos** (crosses to teleport)  
**Oh, we're playing "hide and go seek?" I'll hide in the teleport!**

**Ruby**  
**No. I'm hiding from him because I'm sure he'll ask me more questions about the Bible, and I'm afraid I won't know the answers.**

**Cosmos**  
**Is that all? Lt. Ruby, you have nothing to fear! The Holy Spirit lives in your heart! You can boldly share God's Word – the Holy Spirit will help you! Besides, looking at you standing in that basket reminds me of Saul.**

**Ruby**  
**Saul hid in a laundry basket?**

**Cosmos**

**Actually, his friends hid him in the basket. It's quite a wild story. Let me get the flight manual and I'll read it to you, right now.** (Opens window, SFX: "Hallelujah Chorus," VFX: Beam of light shines from box) **Saul was in Damascus.**

**Ruby**

**Isn't that where Saul went after he had been blinded by the light from heaven?**

**Cosmos**

**Yes, and after God restored his sight the Bible says, *At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God.***

**Ruby**

**Wow, Saul sure was a bold believer!**

**Cosmos**

**Saul had always been a devoted believer in God the Father but, now that he knew the real truth about Jesus, he just couldn't hold it inside! Read what the virtual Bible says. (SFX: Virtual Bible Theme, VFX: Scripture Slide)**

**Ruby**

***Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Christ. Wowsers! So, did the Holy Spirit give him courage?***

**Cosmos**

**He did!**

**Ruby**

**And did the people in Damascus see how much he had changed?**

**Cosmos**

**They did!**

**Ruby**

**And did he tell them all that Jesus is God's Son?**

**Cosmos**

**He did!**

**Ruby**

**And did they love him for it?**

**Cosmos**

**No. They wanted to kill him!**

**Ruby**

**What? That's not right!**

**Cosmos**

**Don't forget that there were still a lot of Jewish leaders who still believed like Saul used to – they believed that Jesus was not God's Son. They wanted to stop His followers from telling people about Jesus!**

**Ruby**

**Especially when those followers were great preachers like Saul! I bet he was convincing everyone to follow Jesus.**

**Cosmos**

**That's right. So they began to watch the city gates, waiting for a chance to get him!**

**Ruby**

**Did they get him?**

**Cosmos**

**Nope, Saul found out about their evil plan and his followers hid him in a basket and lowered the basket through an opening in the wall.**

**Ruby**

**Wow! I know how that feels! What did Saul do after he escaped?**

**Cosmos**

**He did what the Holy Spirit had called him to do. He headed straight for Jerusalem and boldly spread the Word of God everywhere he went!**

**Ruby**

**Wow! Hearing that story makes me feel like boldly sharing my faith! Where is Ambassador Nofutu?**

**Cosmos**

**Oh, he left.**

**Ruby**  
He did?

**Cosmos**  
Yes, he said he was going back to Planet Jerusalem to spread God's Word. But, he left you a message. Computer, access message please.

**Computer V.O.**  
Aye, aye, Commander.

**Nofutu** (on video or side stage)  
Hello, Lieutenant Ruby! I'm sorry, I could not find you to say goodbye. Thank you for telling me so much about the Holy Bible! I am going back to Jerusalem to tell all of my people that they can invite the wonderful Savior, Jesus into their hearts! I feel like a new man and it is all because of you! You taught me that Jesus is the same forever and tomorrow and yesterday and all those days! You will always be my special friend. God bless you! Bye-bye!

**Ruby**  
Wow! Now I feel just awful!

**Cosmos**  
Why? You told Nofutu about Jesus!

**Ruby**  
I guess but... Saul and Ambassador Nofutu were boldly telling everyone about Jesus and here I am hiding in a basket! I want to be bold like them!

**Cosmos**  
Never fear. We've got a whole galaxy ahead of us. Each week you'll have a chance to boldly share God's Word where no man has gone before!

**Ruby**  
How can you be so sure?

**Cosmos**  
Well, God made Saul bold and He can do the same for you! Because... say it with us, kids! Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever! (SFX: Outro music, VFX: Fallback slide, exit)