



The Resurrection: New Life

1 Corinthians 15:15:3-6, 21-22, 51-52; John 20:1-18

Running time: Approximately 6 minutes

Setting: This series (Units 1- 4) is set on board a spaceship. The set is designed to look like the interior of the spaceship Skylab Omega. There are colored Plexiglas panels with lights behind them, computer parts, knobs and buttons, and a built-in view screen. The Command Center is on the B-deck (upper level or stage right area). The 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 the 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. He speaks with an unusual accent.

Plot: Nofutu comes aboard to celebrate but Ruby must explain the meaning of Easter to him. We learn Jesus died for our sins and God raised Him to life, so we could have life forever close to Him!

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

Props: Bible, remote control

Sound effects (SFX):

1. Intro/outro music suggestion: Space-themed songs
2. Computer voiceover (see script)
3. Teleport sounds and fanfare
4. Plexiglas window suggestion: Handel's Messiah "Hallelujah Chorus." Music plays when window is opened to reveal Bible.
5. Virtual Bible theme suggestion: "Close Encounters" Theme

Visual effects (VFX):

1. Video Intro featuring space ships and rockets available at ResourceWell.org
2. Strobes and fog (at teleport)
3. Sliding Plexiglas window holds the Bible. When opened, light shines out and music plays.
4. Scripture Slide (on Virtual Bible): ***For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.***
1 Corinthians 15:21-22
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 located at ResourceWell.org

Commander Cosmos
Unit 3, Lesson 15
The Resurrection: New Life
1 Corinthians 15:3-6, 21-22; 51-52;
John 20:1-18

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

Hi Space Cadets! It's good to be back on board Skylab Omega. Planet Pharis was a challenging place to share the Gospel. Besides, if I'm going to spend Easter floating in space, I'd much rather be aboard my own friendly ship.

Computer V.O.

Visitor arriving! Visitor arriving! In 5-4-3-2-1! (SFX: Teleport sounds and fanfare, VFX: Strobes and fog)

Nofutu

Merry Easter! Merry Easter! Boogah, boogah, boogah, Kong-a-loosh!

Ruby

Ambassador Nofutu! Good to see you. And you got it right! It is Easter!

Nofutu

It is? Hooray, it's Easter! It's Easter! What is Easter?

Ruby

What? You don't know about Easter?

Nofutu

No. Is it important?

Ruby

The Apostle Paul said what happened that day was of the very first importance!

Nofutu

Do we have a big celebration with cupcakes? Do we get to sing songs of praise?

Ruby

Absolutely!

Nofutu

I love to sing God's praises! But Lieutenant Ruby, why is Easter such a special day to praise Jesus?

Ruby

Because, it's the day we remember how Jesus changed everything!

Nofutu

What is this change?

Ruby

Well, to understand that you have to go back to the beginning of time.

Nofutu

Wow, this must be a long story!

Ruby

It's the greatest story ever told and it's all found in our Bible.

Nofutu

Ah yes! Music Bible time! Music Bible time! (Opens window, SFX: "Hallelujah Chorus," VFX: Beam of light shines from window.) Here you go! Tell me more!

Ruby

Well, you see, the Bible is a love story about God and us.

Nofutu

Because He loves us so much?

Ruby

Yes. In the beginning God created a perfect world and made Adam and Eve.

Nofutu

The first two people!

Ruby

Very good. But, Adam and Eve disobeyed God and brought sin and death into His world.

Nofutu

This is all very sad. I thought you said Easter was a happy day.

Ruby

There is a happy ending.

Nofutu

Oh good! I love happy endings!

Ruby

The Apostle Paul explains it in the Virtual Bible.

Nofutu

Ooh, Easter beepity beeps! Can I do the Easter beepity beeps!

Ruby (hands him the remote)

Here you go. Happy Easter. (SFX: Virtual Bible theme, VFX: Scripture Slide) ***For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.***

Nofutu

I am confused. Is Paul saying that because of Adam's sin we all die?

Ruby

Yes, in a way. You see, in the beginning, there was no death at all for anyone! It was perfect! Then Adam sinned.

Nofutu

I thought this story had a happy ending?

Ruby

It does, and it's all because of what happened that first Easter—Jesus died on the cross for our sins, and He was raised on the third day. Mary Magdalene saw the whole thing! It's right in here. (Turns to John 20 in the Bible.) Three days after Jesus died on the cross, Mary went to the tomb where Jesus was buried.

Nofutu

Was she a friend of Jesus?

Ruby

Yes, and when she got there she noticed the stone blocking the door was rolled away. She ran to tell Peter and John and they came running back with her.

Nofutu

Did they see Jesus?

Ruby

Nope. All they saw were the linen cloths His body had been wrapped in. They went home, but Mary stayed. Then, she looked in the tomb and saw two angels. They asked her why she was crying.

Nofutu

She was probably crying because she missed Jesus!

Ruby

Very good, Ambassador! When she turned around, she saw Jesus.

Nofutu

Did she give Him a great big hug and say Kong-a-loosh?

Ruby

No, she didn't recognize Him at first, but then He called her by her name.

Nofutu

He knew her name?

Ruby

He knows all of us by name.

Nofutu

What did Mary do next?

Ruby

She told His followers the good news that Jesus had been resurrected!

Nofutu

Hooray, Jesus is resurrected! What is resurrected?

Ruby

It means Jesus rose from the dead.

Nofutu

Of course, because now Jesus is alive forever and always!

Ruby

Yes, and one day we will be like Jesus and we will be with Him.

Nofutu

You mean that is going to happen to you and me one day?

Ruby

Yes! To all who believe in Jesus—He will raise us and give us life forever with Him.

Nofutu

Wow, how is Jesus going to do it?

Ruby

No one knows. It's a mystery.

Nofutu

A mystery? Like on Scooby-doo?!

Ruby

Not quite. Let me explain it in Paul's words.

(read 1 Corinthians 15:51-52) *Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.*

Nofutu

Oh, now I see. Jesus died for us and God raised Him to life so we could have life forever close to Him. Now, that's a happy ending! We can celebrate Easter every day!

Ruby

That's why they call us the Easter People—we are the people who will be with Jesus now and forever.

Nofutu

Yes, say it with us kids! (VFX: Closing slide)

Both

Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever!

Nofutu

So long Happy Easter People! Kong-a-loosh! (SFX: Outro music, VFX: Fallback slide)

(they exit)