

## WORSHIP ILLUSTRATION

Lesson 27, Unit 5

### The Bible Barn

#### **Letters About Focus**

Running time: Approximately 5 minutes

**New Testament Letters:** Hebrews

12:1-3 and Philippians 3:12-16

**Focus Verse:** Hebrews 12:2

Set: This series (Units 5 & 6) is set in a barn area of an outdoor camp. The set is designed to look like the interior of a barn. There's a door to enter, a fireplace with stuffed animal heads over the mantle, and a ramp (or steps) to invite kids up to participate in object lessons. There is a mailbag or box that sits on a high shelf, it can have a trap door or simply tip over to dump a pile of letters and a Bible into counselor's hands. There are different openings, trapdoors and windows that the animal of the day can fall out of. For extra fun, build windows where the characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

#### Characters:

Ranger Reggie is the Head Bible Counselor at Camp Venture. He is a former explorer and animal seeker, like the "Crocodile Hunter". (For added humor, pronounce all "R"s and "L"s as a "W".) Safari Sam is the assistant Bible teacher and Ranger Reggie's longtime friend. Like Reggie, he loves animals, children, and the Bible. (For added humor, pronounce all "S"s with a "Th" sound.) Wild William recites Camp Critter Clue either via video or from an offstage mic. (Option: the Camp Critter Clue can be found on a slip of paper or appear on a slide and read by volunteer or any character.) Orville is a klutzy carrier pigeon (silent toy bird attached to a zip line) that delivers messages. Creature Feature's Camp Critter: Race Horse

Note: Each episode introduces a different creature. These may be ten separate puppets, stuffed animals, or one basic sock puppet to represent the 10 following creatures:

Lovebirds (Lesson 22), Meerkat (Lesson 23), Serpent (Lesson 24), Little Lamb (Lesson 25), Dove (Lesson 26), Race Horse (Lesson 27), Kitten (Lesson 28), Gorilla (Lesson 29), Elephant (Lesson 30), Lion (Lesson 31)

Plot: Safari Sam is training to win a race against Ranger Drosselmeyer. Ranger Reggie shows him Paul's letters. We learn that we should focus on Jesus because being more like Him is our prize.

Costumes: Safari hats, shorts, boots, vests, camp t-shirts

Props: Clip board, Bible, letters, large plastic egg, binoculars, paper folded as a flyer, horse legs (can be arms or legs covered in long, brown or black sock)

#### Sound effects: (SFX)

1. Intro/outro music suggestions:  
"Hoe-down Throw down" by Miley Cyrus.
2. Moo SFX
3. "Rocky" Theme
4. "I Like to Move It, Move It" from Madagascar
5. Mail Time Song from Blues Clues
6. Horse whinny SFX
7. Crash SFX

#### Visual effects: (VFX)

Video Intro is available at

[www.childrensministrywarehouse.net](http://www.childrensministrywarehouse.net).

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1. Video Intro: Video featuring Reggie exploring and teaching Bible lessons.
2. Creature Feature slide
3. Wild William's Camp Critter Clue video
4. Slide of Camp Critter Clue:  
"Swift and mighty by design, he gallops toward the finish line."
5. Slide of Camper's Code:  
I will love God with all my heart.  
I will love my neighbor as myself.  
I will be a light wherever I go!

**THE BIBLE BARN: Lesson 27**  
**Letters About Focus**  
**Hebrews 12:1-3**  
**Philippians 3:12-16**

(VFX: short video intro)

**Reggie** (enters)  
**Hello Campers! Ranger Reggie here! Welcome back to the Bible Barn! (SFX: Moo) I have good news. Ranger Drosselmeyer stopped by and fixed Safari Sam's jeep! I didn't even know that he used to be a mechanic. It just goes to show what can happen when you keep your faith focused on God! (SFX: Rocky Theme)**

**Sam** (jogs in w/binoculars)  
**Hut- 2-3-4! Hut-2-3-4!**

**Reggie**  
**Hi Safari Sam! What are you doing?**

**Sam**  
**Can't talk now. Have to stay focused. Hut- 2-3-4! Hut-2-3-4!**

**Reggie**  
**What are you doing?**

**Sam**  
**I'm focusing. I'm getting in shape to beat Ranger Drosselmeyer.**

**Reggie**  
**Why, did your car break down again? (SFX: fade music out)**

**Sam**  
**No, he replaced the starter and now Superstar Sally is sailing smooth!**

**Reggie**  
**Then why do you want to beat him?**

**Sam** (hands him a flyer)  
**Take a look at this!**

**Reggie**  
**The Ranger Runaround Rally Race.**

**Sam**  
**It's the biggest ranger race of the summer and I'm going to win it!**

**Reggie**  
**That's great Safari Sam! It says here the winner gets a thousand dollar prize to give to his favorite charity.**

**Sam**  
**He does?**

**Reggie**  
**Sure. Isn't that why you're running the race?**

**Sam**  
**Well...not exactly...to be honest, I didn't even know about the prize. I just want to beat Drosselmeyer.**

**Reggie**  
**Are you still upset with him? Even after he fixed your jeep?**

**Sam**  
**I know...he did. And it's not that I'm not grateful it's just...where does he come off being the best at everything?! He's the best at volleyball, he's the best at jeep fixing, he's the best Bible teacher...**

**Reggie**  
**Excuse me?**

**Sam**  
**Well, second best, after you. The point is: Just once I want to see him get beat! And with these long legs I know I can outrun him!**

**Reggie**

Oh Sam, you've got your focus on the wrong thing.

**Sam**

Oh, yeah? Now I suppose you are going to tell me there is a letter in the Bible about racing.

**Reggie**

As a matter of fact there is! Let me show you! It's Mail Time! (SFX: "Mail Song" from Blues Clues plays when the mail box is opened.) Here it is. "Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross..."

**Sam**

What does that mean?

**Reggie**

This letter is telling us to have the right focus, to pay close attention on Jesus. Just like Jesus kept His eyes on the finish line.

**Sam**

What finish line?

**Reggie**

Heaven! Jesus knew that the only way we could be in heaven with Him is if He sacrificed himself for our sins.

**Sam**

Oh, so Jesus was willing to die on the cross because it was worth the prize.

**Reggie**

Yes! And Paul tells us to keep our eyes on the finish line and that being more like Jesus is the prize.

**Sam**

I've got my eyes on this finish line! And when I cross it, I'm going to laugh while Drosselmeyer cries his little eyes out!

**Reggie**

Oh no, Safari Sam, you're missing the point. There are so many better reasons to win the race.

**Sam**

Name one.

**Reggie**

Well, for one thing you get to give the prize money to your favorite charity. You could give the money to help kids in need and use your speed and talents to glorify God!

**Sam**

Well, I guess you're right.

**Reggie**

Of course I'm right. It's just like the letter Orville was showing me this morning.

**Sam**

Let's call him, kids!

**Reggie, Sam, Children, Counselors**

"Hey Orville, come on down!"

(Orville slides down and crashes through window; egg drops down into fireplace.)

**Sam**

Wow, Orville had his eyes on the target!

**Reggie** (opens egg and removes paper)

Here is Orville's message. It's from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

(reads) "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. All of us who are mature should take such a view of things."

Sam

So you're saying I should be focusing on God instead of focusing on hurting Ranger Drosselmeyer's feelings.

Reggie

It's always the right choice to keep our focus on God!

Sam

I wonder if our Creature Feature knows how to focus on the finish line!

Reggie

Let's find out! It's time for our Creature Feature! (SFX: "I Like to Move It, Move It") (VFX: slide reading: Creature Feature) **Wild William, who is today's featured creature?**

Wild William (VFX: Wild William)  
"Swift and mighty by design, he gallops toward the finish line."  
(VFX: clue slide)

Reggie

I know an animal that focuses on the finish line and gallops! It's a race horse! (Horse legs kick out through curtain) (SFX: whinnying sound) **Ow! That hurts! Ouch! Ooh! Ah! Wahhh!** (falls down)

Sam

Ranger Reggie! Are you okay?

Reggie (disoriented)

Oh sure, he only kicked me in the head, "Hey Orville, come on down!"

Sam

Ranger Reggie, we already read Orville's message.

Reggie

Was it good?

Sam

Oh yes, it was great!

Reggie

Is it mail time?

Sam

Wow, that horse kicked you really hard. You'd better lie down.

Reggie

I can't I have to lead us in the Camp Venture Code.

Sam

You lie down, Ranger Reggie. I'll lead the code.

Reggie

**Nighty-night!** (collapses)

Sam

On your feet, Campers! Raise your right hand and repeat after me!

All

I will love God with all my heart.

I will love my neighbor as myself.

I will be a light wherever I go!

(VFX: I will love God with all my heart, I will love my neighbor as myself, I will be a light wherever I go!)

Sam

Ranger Reggie's going to get some rest!

Reggie (collapses offstage)

**Yippie kai ayyy!** (SFX: crash)

Sam

Let's learn our new verse and sing our Camp Critter song together!

(Teach and sing verse 6 of Critter Kingdom Song)

**ALL (Sam, campers, counselors)**

(Sing Critter Kingdom Song Verse 6)

**I spied a race horse overhead;**

**Here is what that Race horse said,**

(3 claps) **"Keep your eyes on Him,**

(3 claps) **and you will win."**

**I saw a race horse who followed**

**the dove who followed a little lamb**

**who followed a serpent who**

**followed a meerkat, who followed a**

**lovebird and the lovebird hollered,**

**"Yippee-kigh-yay!"**

**...at Camp Venture today!**

(VFX: lyric slide or poster cue cards:

I spied a Race horse overhead;

Here is what that Race horse said,

(3 claps) "Keep your eyes on Him,

(3 claps) and you will win."

I saw a race horse who followed the

dove who followed a little lamb who

followed a serpent who followed a

meerkat, who followed a lovebird and

the lovebird hollered,

"Yippee-kigh-yay!"

...at Camp Venture today!

**Sam**

**So long Campers!**

(SFX: outro)