



Worship Illustration: Script
The Adventures of the Bonzai Brothers
God of Wonders Part 1: Miracles of Jesus
Unit 1, Lesson 2

Filling the Nets

Luke 5:1-11

Running time: Approximately 7 minutes

Set: The Worship Illustration series for God of Wonders Units 1-4 is set in and around a remote jungle airstrip on an uncharted island north of Togo. It is the home of the Bonzai Brother's Flight School. The set should in some way denote the beginning of a journey; a dilapidated airplane hanger covered with vines and cargo netting. There is a cargo crate that contains the Bible. When it is opened, lights flash and a sound effect or theme song plays. For added interest, build windows, entrances and levels where the characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

Characters: The main characters, Chauncey and Algernon Bonzai are former World War 1 British Air Force pilots turned missionaries. Pepper is a bird puppet (pelican or parrot).

Plot: In this scene, the Bonzai Brothers decide to have fish for lunch. This leads to a discussion of Jesus miracle: the filling of the nets.

Costumes: Chauncey and Algeron: Brown Bomber jacket, khaki pants, aviator cap and goggles, work boots, scarf

Props: Goldfish crackers, strainer, cardboard airplane (worn by Chauncey), radio reception device

Sound effects (SFX):

1. Intro/outro music suggestion: "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin
2. Plane engine sputter and crash
3. Explosion
4. Ambulance sirens
5. Crackling sound waves
6. Cargo Crate theme song suggestion: "There Can Be Miracles" from The Prince of Egypt soundtrack - Disney

Visual effects (VFX):

1. Video Intro: Black and white footage of experimental flight and failures in the Wright Brothers era (available at ResourceWell.org)
2. Ambulance lights
3. Cargo crate contains the Bible. Whenever it is opened, light shines out and theme song plays
4. Scripture slide: ***So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed Him. Luke 5:11***
5. Closing Slide: "It's incredible but true, what the God of Wonders can do!"

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

The Bonzai Brothers
Unit 1, Lesson 2
Filling the Nets
Luke 5:1-11

(VFX: Bonzai Brothers Video intro)

Video Intro Voiceover

Since the dawn of time, man has longed to fly like the birds! (image of man with wings trying to fly) **Over in England, those amazing twin flyboys, the Bonzai Brothers, were making their first flight...and crashing** (image of a failed test flight, image of another failed test flight), **and crashing ... and crashing** (image of another failed test flight)...**and, of course...crashing!** (image of another failed test flight) **Could it be possible that God would now use their "special talents," in the remotest places on Earth.** (animated plane flying over map) **Journey with us now to their island getaway to see what has become of the long lost Bonzai Brothers! And see the Wonders that God can do!** (SFX: "The Entertainer")

Algernon

Hullo there, mates! Colonel Bonzai here! Just flew in from Timbuktu and boy are my arms tired! What, what? That one never get's old!

Chauncey

Good one, old boy!

Algernon

Chauncey! So good to see you!

Chauncey

Good to be seen, Algie! Where did you crash your aero plane?

Algernon

In the trees. Where did you crash yours?

Chauncey

On top of Miracle Mountain.

Algernon

You've got me beat this time! Let me buy you some lunch!

Chauncey
Sushi?

Algernon

You read my mind, old boy! How did you know I love sushi?

Chauncey

Everyone loves a tasty piece of fish, even Jesus and the disciples!

Algernon

Yes, those disciples were always fishing.

Chauncey

Yes, in fact there's a great story in the Bible where Jesus took Simon Peter fishing. (takes out Bible) Now, where did I see that story?

Algernon

Did you try Luke chapter five?

Chauncey

Good show, Algie! How did you know that?

Algernon

I read the script!

Chauncey

Excellent! This is a wonderful story. In the book of Luke, chapter five, Jesus gets right in the boat with Simon Peter and tells him to head out to the deep water and let down the nets for a catch!

Algernon

But he didn't want to fish, did he, Chauncey?

Chauncey

You're right, Algie, they had been fishing all night and had not caught a single sardine!

Algernon

Not so much as a kippered herring!

Chauncey

Not even a lousy lungfish!

Algernon

Not even a tin of tuna!

Chauncey

Not even a can of codfish!

Algernon

Not even a filet-o-fish sandwich!

Chauncey

They couldn't even find Nemo!

Algernon

You don't say?

Chauncey

I do say!

Algernon

Well, whatever did they do?

Chauncey

I shall show you! Let us find a volunteer to be Simon Peter! (Choose a volunteer.) **Very good, Peter, here is your net.** (Give strainer to volunteer.) **Now, do you know what Peter said to Jesus?**

Algernon

Oh, I remember! Pick me! Pick Me!

Chauncey

Very well, Algie, what did Peter say?

Algernon

"Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."

Chauncey

Very good, Algie! As you can see Peter was obedient and he let down the nets. (to volunteer) **Hold out your net.** (Pour fish crackers into strainer.) **And they caught so many fish that their nets began to break!**

Algernon

It's a miracle!

Chauncey

A miracle!

Algernon

A miracle!

Chauncey

Let's have a big round of applause for our volunteer! You may have a seat.

Algernon

Oh Chauncey, that was wonderful! Do you think Peter was surprised?

Chauncey

Yes and a little frightened. Peter fell to his knees and told Jesus, "Go away from me, Lord. I'm a sinful man!"

Algernon

The disciples didn't think they were good enough to follow Jesus because He could do miracles!

Chauncey

Miracles!

Algernon

Miracles! So, did Jesus go away?

Chauncey

Heavens no, dear boy. He told them that from now on they were going to catch men!

Algernon

How so?

Chauncey

Well, as fishermen they found fish, but if they followed Jesus, they would find people who wanted to follow Jesus!

Algernon

Ah yes! So in a way, they'd be fishing for followers. Splendid! So, what did they do?

Chauncey (VFX: scripture slide)

The Bible says, "So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed Him."

Algernon

They followed Him!

Chauncey

The disciples followed Jesus! And do you know why?

Algernon

Because He had goldfish crackers!

Chauncey

No because He could do miracles!

Algernon

Miracles!

Chauncey

Miracles! They knew Jesus was truly the Son of God. And they were learning that: "It's incredible but true, what the God of Wonders can do!"

Algernon (VFX: closing slide)

Aha! There's our motto again. Let's all say it together: "It's incredible but true, what the God of Wonders can do!"

Chauncey

I say, Algie, let's go catch some sushi and have lunch!

Algernon

Good show, Chauncey! But suppose we don't catch any fish?

Chauncey

We can fill up on goldfish crackers!

Algernon

Good show! I love the pizza flavored ones!

Chauncey

Ta-ta kiddies! Drop in next time for another miracle from the life of Jesus!

Algernon

And keep reading about the God of Wonders!

Chauncey

Tally ho! (both exit)