



**Worship Illustration: Script**  
***The Adventures of the Bonzai Brothers***  
**God of Wonders Part 1: Miracles of Jesus**  
**Unit 1, Lesson 3**

# Calming the Storm

**Mark 4:35-41**

**Running time:** Approximately 6 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:** Bible, 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 Disney's The Prince of Egypt soundtrack

**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. Lightning flashes
5. Nest video of Jesus calming storm.
6. Scripture slide: ***He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. Mark 4:39***
7. 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 3**  
**Calming the Storm**  
**Mark 4:35-41**

(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! Colonel Bonzai here! Just crashed my aeroplane on my way back from Argentina! Has anyone heard from my brother Chauncey?**

**Pepper**

**Calling Colonel Bonzai! Calling Colonel Bonzai! Come in Colonel Bonzai!**

**Algernon**

**Pepper, is that you?**

**Pepper**

**Well, it ain't Donald Duck!**

**Algernon**

**Kids, this is Pepper Pelican. He helps us out by delivering messages from Flight Command.**

**Pepper**

**I just flew through a terrible storm to tell you your brother Chauncey is caught in a terrible storm!**

**Algernon**

**No!**

**Pepper**

**Yes!**

**Algernon**

**No!**

**Pepper**

**Yes!**

**Algernon**

**No!**

**Pepper**

**Can't you take yes for an answer?**

**Algernon**

**Whatever shall we do?**

**Pepper**

**I'm running for cover! Call me when the sun comes out. So long!**

**Algernon**

**Oh no! Oh no!**

**Pepper** (offstage)

**Oh yes!**

**Algernon**

**Oh, what to do? What to do? Chauncey is in terrific danger. He could lose control of his plane and crash into something! Come to think of it, he does that every week. Still, there must be something we can do! Aha! I have it. Let us pray! Dear Lord, Please protect my dear brother and bring him safely through the storm! And all of my co-pilots say, Amen!**

**Chauncey**

**Tally ho! Hullo, Colonel Bonzai!**

**Algernon**

**Hullo, Colonel Bonzai! Chauncey is that you?**

**Chauncey**

**Well, it ain't Donald Duck!**

**Algernon**

**That's what Pepper said!**

**Chauncey**

**Speaking of Pepper, did he get the message through safely?**

**Algernon**

**Yes! He said you were caught in a storm.**

**Chauncey**

**I was! And the strangest thing happened. There I was flying along in the wind and the rain and the lightning when all of a sudden the storm just stopped!**

**Algernon**

**The storm just stopped?**

**Chauncey**

**The storm just stopped!**

**Algernon**

**God answered our prayers! It's a miracle!**

**Chauncey**

**A miracle!**

**Algernon**

**We prayed for your safety and God stopped the storm! It's a miracle!**

**Chauncey**

**A miracle!**

**Algernon**

**A miracle! And then you landed safely on the ground?**

**Chauncey**

**No, I crashed.**

**Algernon**

**Of course you did!**

**Chauncey**

**Fortunately, I landed on my head! Algie, this reminds me of a story!**

**Algernon**

**A story of God's glory?!**

**Chauncey** (take out Bible)

**A glory story, that's for sure-y!** (opens Cargo Crate, SFX: "There Can Be Miracles," VFX: Light shines from Cargo Crate) **It's found in Mark chapter four-y.**

**Algernon**

**Is it about an aeroplane in a storm?**

**Chauncey**

**There are no aero planes in the Bible. This story happens in a boat. Jesus was there with His disciples.**

**Algernon**

**Were they fishing again?!**

**Chauncey**

**No, they were crossing the lake at night, looking for a place to rest. Suddenly a great squall broke out!**

**Algernon**

**A great squall? What's a squall?**

**Chauncey** (VFX: Storm video)

**It's like a storm of Biblical proportions! I say, Algie, I've got an idea! Let's all pretend that we are there in the boat with Jesus!**

**Algernon**

**What a capital idea!**

**Chauncey**

**Kids, let's squeeze together and pretend we're in that boat. It's a dark night...the water is choppy... the boat is rocking...and there's wind! (SFX: Wind) And rain and lightning! (VFX: Lightening flashes) (SFX: Rain, thunder) **Waves are breaking over the sides of the boat.****

**Algernon**

**This is frightening! Where is Jesus?**

**Chauncey**

**Jesus was in the stern.**

**Algernon**

That's in the back of the boat so, I suppose Jesus was driving.

**Chauncey**

Actually, He was sleeping on a cushion.

**Algernon**

What?! Sleeping on a cushion? Doesn't He care if we drown?

**Chauncey**

Do you know something, Algernon? That is the same question the disciples asked Jesus.

**Algernon**

Well, what did Jesus say?

**Chauncey** (VFX: Slide)

The Bible says, "He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, 'Quiet! Be still!' Then the wind died down and it was completely calm." Mark 4:39 (All SFX stop)

**Algernon** (whispers)

I think...it's a miracle!

**Chauncey**

A miracle!

**Algernon**

A miracle! Jesus is amazing! Even storms have to obey Him!

**Chauncey**

I suppose even the weather knows the Lord when it hears His voice.

**Algernon**

Wowzers Chauncey, God's Word is just full of amazing surprises!

**Chauncey**

You know what they say, dear brother: "It's incredible but true, what the God of Wonders can do!"

**Algernon** (VFX: Slide)

That's not what they say, that's what we say! Let's say it together, everyone: "It's incredible but true, what the God of Wonders can do!"

**Chauncey**

Good show, kids!

**Algernon**

Ta-ta! Do come back and hear more miracles from the life of Jesus!

**Chauncey**

Tally ho!

(exit)