



# Healing the Ten Lepers

**Luke 17:12-19**

**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 Algeron Bonzai are former World War 1 British Air Force pilots turned missionaries.

**Plot:** The brothers read how Jesus healed ten men with leprosy. One man came back to give Jesus thanks and praise. We learn Jesus likes to hear us thank Him.

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

**Props:** Bible, radio reception device, ten strips of burlap.

**Sound effects (SFX):**

1. Intro music suggestion: "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin
2. Song: "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" (available at ResourceWell.org)

3. Cargo Crate theme song suggestion: "There Can Be Miracles" from Disney's The Prince of Egypt soundtrack
4. Outro music suggestion: "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin

**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. Cargo crate contains the Bible. Whenever it is opened, light shines out and theme song plays
3. Scripture slide: ***One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. Luke 17:15***
4. Lyric Slide or Lyric Video: "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" Psalm 103:2-5 (available at ResourceWell.org)

*(Chorus)* Praise the Lord, O my soul,  
and forget not all His benefits—  
who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases. Praise the Lord.

*(Verse)* Who redeems your life from the pit,  
and crowns you with love and compassion,  
Who satisfies your desires with good things  
So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. Praise the Lord.

*(Repeat Chorus and Verse)* Praise the Lord.

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 2, Lesson 10**  
**Healing the Ten Lepers**  
**Luke 17:12-19**

(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")

**Chauncey** (enters at hangar)

**Tally Ho! So good to see you all! Colonel Bonzai here!**

**Algernon** (enters at hangar)

**And Colonel Bonzai here, as well!**

**Chauncey**

**We are so thankful for our Mumsy spending so much time with us!**

**Algernon**

**Yes, while she's been with us, she has been such a great help! She has helped us get our hut fixed up...**

**Chauncey**

**And she has helped us organize our ministry and we're able to help more missionaries than ever!**

**Algernon**

**Yes, we are so thankful to our beautiful Mumsy for all she has done!**

**Chauncey**

**And we are so thankful to all of you for all of your generous giving.**

**Algernon**

**Because of you we are able to distribute to so many people in need.**

**Chauncey**

**And we want to thank each and every one of you. Thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you...**

**Algernon**

**Perhaps we should just say, thank you all!**

**Chauncey**

**Good thinking, dear brother! Thank you all. Thank you very much! Oh, all of this thankfulness reminds me of the story of the ten lepers.**

**Algernon**

**Ten leopards? Where?!**

**Chauncey**

**No, Algie not leopards, lepers. Here I'll show you. Let's get our Bibles out right now!** (SFX: "There Can Be Miracles," VFX: Light shines from Cargo Crate) **Here it is - the healing of the ten lepers.**

**Algernon**

**Ten leopards? Where? Where?!**

**Chauncey**

**Algie, I said lepers! Lepers!**

**Algernon**

**What on earth is a leper?**

**Chauncey**

**It's a person with a skin illness. When people caught leprosy they had to be separated from their friends and family so that no one else would get sick.**

**Algernon**

**Oh, that must have been a terribly lonely way to live.**

**Chauncey**

Indeed, it was. They even stood far away when they saw Jesus and they said, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"

**Algernon**

Well what happened? Tell us! Tell us!

**Chauncey**

I have a better idea! Let's choose ten lepers to act it out!

**Algernon**

There's no zoo around here. Where are we going to find ten Leopards?

**Chauncey**

Not leopards! Lepers!

**Algernon**

Oh, right! I'll pick five and you pick five!

**Chauncey**

**Good show!** (Choose 10 volunteers and place them in a line.) **All righty! We've got our ten lepers...**

**Algernon**

Leopards! Where, where?

**Chauncey**

Algie!

**Algernon**

Sorry!

**Chauncey** (distribute burlap)

**Now, we will give you each a piece of burlap and this will represent your disease.**

**Algernon**

**Now, imagine you have to go through life with this attached to you and you can't be near those you love!**

**Chauncey** (take back burlap)

**But one day Jesus comes along and takes away your pain and your shame and sends you on your way!**

**Algernon**

It was a miracle!

**Chauncey**

A miracle!

**Algernon**

A miracle! Well, right away all ten of those healed leopards...

**Chauncey**

Lepers!

**Algernon**

Right! All ten...sick guys were so happy that they were healed that they went back to their people and probably celebrated all night long!

**Chauncey**

**Give them a round of applause. You may be seated. All except for you** (nine volunteers exit, one remains) **because the Bible says: (VFX: Scripture slide) One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. Luke 12:15**

**Algernon**

Only one of them thanked Jesus? What happened to the other nine?!

**Chauncey**

That is the exact same question Jesus asked.

**Algernon**

How terribly sad – Jesus blessed them with a "right away healing" but they didn't come back and thank Him.

**Chauncey**

They missed out on a special time to grow closer to the God of Wonders as this fellow did. Let's have a round of applause for our grateful leper. (Volunteer exits.)

**Algernon**

**Oh, Chauncey, we never want to miss out on a chance to grow closer to the God of Wonders. We must always remember to give God thanks and praise!**

**Chauncey**

**An excellent suggestion, dear brother! We have so much to thank Jesus for.**

**Algernon**

**Wait a tick... why don't we praise Him right away!**

**Chauncey**

**But of course! In fact the kiddies can join us in singing praise to the Lord.**

**Algernon**

**Splendid idea! Let's all sing our Bible Memory Verse Song together.**

**(SFX/VFX: "Praise The Lord, O My Soul")**

**Bonzai Brothers, children, leaders (singing)**

**(Chorus) Praise the Lord, O my soul,  
and forget not all His benefits—  
who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases.  
Praise the Lord.**

**(Verse) Who redeems your life from the pit,  
and crowns you with love and compassion,  
Who satisfies your desires with good  
things  
So that your youth is renewed like the  
eagle's.  
Praise the Lord.**

**(Repeat Chorus and Verse) Praise the Lord.**

**Algernon (song ends)**

**You were right Chauncey. We have so much to praise the Lord for.**

**Chauncey**

**And we know the reason why, don't we?!**

**Algernon (SFX: Closing slide)**

**Certainly! Let's say it together kids: "It's incredible but true, what the God of Wonders can do!"**

**Chauncey**

**Good show, everyone! (SFX: "The Entertainer") Ta-ta kiddies!**

**Algernon**

**Love and kippers!**

**(exits)**