



Worship Illustration: Script
The Adventures of the Bonzai Brothers
God of Wonders Part 1: Miracles of Jesus
Unit 3, Lesson 14

The Miracle of Easter

Matthew 27:50-51, 54-66; John 20:1-9; John 3:16

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: Mumsy, a former nurse and commander in the Women's Air Brigade, is the Bonzai's mother. She is loving but very tough and commands authority. Pepper is a bird puppet (pelican or parrot).

Plot: Mumsy uses an egg to teach Pepper about the miracles of Easter. We learn we can have forever life with Jesus.

Costumes: Mumsy: White wig, colorful blouse, culottes, furry boots, hat

Props: Bible; radio reception device; plastic egg containing cross, stone, white cloth, and scarlet cloth

Sound effects (SFX):

1. Intro music suggestion: "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin
2. Cargo Crate theme song suggestion: "There Can Be Miracles" from Disney's The Prince of Egypt soundtrack
3. 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: ***For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16***
4. 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

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John 3:16

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")

Mumsy (enters)

Hello my lovelies! It's me Mumsy! Oh, I'm so glad you came to visit.. I've got something very special in my bag. Now, where did I put it?

Pepper (enter at puppet stage)

Ahoy, kids! Pepper Pelican here! Oh, hi Mumsy. What are you doing?

Mumsy

Hullo Pepper, I was showing the children something very valuable. Ah, here it is!
(pulls egg out of bag)

Pepper

What's that?

Mumsy

It's a miracle

Pepper

A miracle!

Mumsy

A miracle!

Pepper

It's an egg! That is a miracle! I used to live in one of those.

Mumsy

Well, this one is very special on the inside! Let me show you!

Pepper

No! What are you doing? Don't open that! That could be my niece or nephew in there!

Mumsy

Oh, don't worry, Pepper. This isn't a real egg. It's a miracle egg.

Pepper

A miracle egg? What's that?

Mumsy

It holds the miracles of Easter!

Pepper

No!

Mumsy

Yes!

Pepper

No!

Mumsy (takes out the cross)

Yes! Look!

Pepper

I know what that is, that's a cross. But how is a cross a miracle?

Mumsy

The cross isn't the miracle. What Jesus did on the cross for us, that's the miracle! The cross is a symbol of God's forgiveness. You see, Pepper, we all have sin in our life.

Pepper

I know what sin is! Sin is doing wrong on Gods eyes.

Mumsy

Exactly! Sin is not allowed into Heaven because Heaven is a perfect place.

Pepper

Well, then how do we get there?

Mumsy

That's where the miracle comes in! Even though Jesus never sinned, Jesus took the punishment for the sins of the world. Jesus died on the cross so that our sins could be forgiven and erased forever!

Pepper

Wow! That is a miracle! What else have you got in that little egg?

Mumsy

Well, there's this.

Pepper

A piece of dark red cloth?

Mumsy

Not just any cloth. This cloth represents the temple curtain!

Pepper

What temple curtain?

Mumsy

Well, you see, in the Jewish temple, there was a large, thick purple-red curtain that separated the main area from the holiest part. People were not allowed to go on the holy side - that was where God stayed.

Pepper

You mean the people were separated from God? That's so sad.

Mumsy

Not anymore! Right when Jesus died the curtain was torn from the top to the bottom and now we can step right into God's presence!

Pepper

Wow! It's like God reached down from heaven and tore it Himself! That's a miracle! This is fun! What's next, what's next?!

Mumsy

There's this stone.

Pepper

Ooh, I know what that stands for! It represents the stone that was rolled in front of Jesus' tomb!

Mumsy

And do you know what happened to that stone?

Pepper

It was rolled it away and the tomb was empty! Jesus had risen from the dead, just as He said He would!

Mumsy

Just like He said He would! He went to take his rightful place as the Lord of heaven! It was a miracle!

Pepper

A miracle! Hey, Mumsy, you got any other miracles in that egg?

Mumsy

I do. I've got this.

Pepper

Another curtain?

Mumsy

Oh no. This wasn't a curtain. This white cloth represents the white cloth used for Jesus' burial.

Pepper

Tell me more.

Mumsy

Well, when Jesus was buried they wrapped His body in linen cloth that was sprinkled with good smelling frankincense and myrrh. To seal the tomb, they rolled a large stone across its entrance. But when the stone was rolled away...

Pepper

Jesus wasn't there!

Mumsy

But the clothes were still there. In fact, they were folded neatly right where He had been.

Pepper

And that was more proof that Jesus was alive!

Mumsy

Amen to that!

Pepper

Wow, Mumsy, you were right! That egg is full of miracles!

Mumsy

Oh, more than that, Pepper! This egg is a miracle!

Pepper

A miracle!

Mumsy

A miracle!

Pepper

A miracle! Wait a minute. It is? How is the egg a miracle, Mumsy?

Mumsy

You should know that more than anyone, Pepper. After all, you were hatched from an egg. The egg stands for new life.

Pepper

I see, the egg reminds us that we can have new life in Jesus!

Mumsy (VFX: Scripture Slide)

Not just any life, eternal life - that's "Forever life!" The Bible says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

Pepper

So, if we believe in Jesus, we can live forever in heaven with Him?

Mumsy

That's the Miracle of Easter.

Pepper

That's incredible!

Mumsy

You know what we Bonzais love to say...

Pepper (VFX: Closing Slide:)

I sure do! Let's all say it together, kids: "It's incredible but true, what the God of Wonders can do!" (SFX: "The Entertainer") So long, kids! Come back next week and learn more about our "Forever life" with Jesus!

Mumsy

Happy Easter! Love and kippers!

(they exit)