



**Worship Illustration: Script**  
***The Adventures of the Bonzai Brothers***  
**God of Wonders Part 1: Miracles of Jesus**  
**Unit 3, Lesson 15**

# Appearing on the Shore

**John 21:1-13**

**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.

**Plot:** Chauncey tells Algie that Jesus appeared to His disciples and performed a miracle they recognized. We learn Jesus proved He had risen from the grave.

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

**Props:** Bible, strainer, fish-shaped crackers

**Sound effects (SFX):**

1. Intro music suggestion: "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin
2. Glissando
3. Popsy Voiceovers (1-3): printed in script, prerecorded or spoken off stage
4. Cargo Crate theme song suggestion: "There Can Be Miracles" from Disney's The Prince of Egypt soundtrack
5. 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. Photo slide show photos: Easter Island statues, Popsy hunting with 800 Pound Gorilla
4. Scripture slide: ***Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. John 21:12***
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 3, Lesson 15**  
**Appearing on the Shore**  
**John 21:1-13**

**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** (enter at hangar)  
**Tally ho! Col. Bonzai here!**

**Algie** (enter at hangar)  
**And Colonel Bonzai here also!** (to children) **I hope you all had a wonderful Easter Celebration!**

**Algie**  
**Actually, Popsy didn’t want Easter to be over so he and Mumsy flew to Easter Island to hunt for giant Easter eggs.**

**Chauncey**  
**There are no giant Easter eggs on Easter Island.**

**Algie**  
**I know that, and you know that. But Popsy doesn’t know that. Anyway, he sent a lovely talking postcard.**

**Chauncey**  
**All right, let’s have a look.**

**SFX: Popsy Voiceover 1**

(VFX: Postcard photo slide show)  
**Dear Chauncey and Algie, Having a lovely time. We met these big fellows!** (VFX: Postcard photo of Easter Island statues) **I wanted to wrassle a few of them, but when I spoke to them they ignored me. But I figure with heads this big they must eat awfully big eggs for breakfast.** (VFX: Postcard photo of Popsy hunting with 800 Pound Gorilla) **800 Pound Gorilla and I are now hunting for the giant pelicans that lay those eggs.**

**Chauncey**

**What? Don’t tell me he brought 800 Pound Gorilla instead of us!**

**SFX: Popsy Voiceover 2**

**I brought 800 Pound Gorilla instead of you.**

**Chauncey**

**I told him not to tell me that.**

**SFX: Popsy Voiceover 3**

**Too late. When we catch those giant pelicans we’re going to wrassle them until they give us their giant, chocolate Cadbury eggs. Then when we return, we’ll make you a fine chocolate egg omelet for breakfast! Love, Popsy.**

**Chauncey**

**Oh that does sound yummy! And it reminds me of one of my favorite Bible stories?**

**Algie**

**That’s funny I don’t recall any chocolate omelet stories in the Bible.**

**Chauncey**

**Oh no, of course not, but there is a story about Jesus appearing to His friends after He rose from the dead.**

**Algie**

**I say, I’d like to have seen that with my own eyes!**

**Chauncey**

**Actually, there were many eyewitnesses! In fact, Jesus appeared many times after He rose from the dead. Here, I'll show you. Let's get the Bible out right now!**

(SFX: "There Can Be Miracles," VFX: Light shines from Cargo Crate)

**Algie**

**I believe in miracles, too!**

**Chauncey**

**Well, good Algie, because I found a miracle here in the book of John. It's the story of Jesus appearing on the shore**

**Algie**

**On the shore? Oh how I do love the shore! Did He come for a swim?**

**Chauncey**

**No, He came to prove to His friends that He was truly alive. So, He made breakfast for them...**

**Algie**

**He did what?**

**Chauncey**

**Jesus cooked breakfast. Look, it's in the Bible.**

**Algie** (looks at page in Bible)

**Ah, I remember this story. The disciples had been fishing all night and had not caught a single fish. I say, Chauncey, perhaps we should get a fisherman to help us out.**

**Chauncey**

**A capitol idea, Algie! Let us find a volunteer to represent the disciples! (choose volunteer)**

**Algie**

**Come on up. Here is your net. (Give strainer to volunteer.) We're ready, Chauncey! What happened next?**

**Chauncey**

**Well, as I told you, the disciples had been fishing all night on their boat and had not caught a single fish. But, Jesus appeared on the shore.**

**Algie**

**But I thought Jesus had died.**

**Chauncey**

**He had died. But, remember what the angel said when the Jesus' friends found His empty tomb? The angel told them, "He is not here. He has risen just as He said!"**

**Algie**

**Ah yes, and did his friends believe the angel? Did they recognize Jesus standing on the shore?**

**Chauncey**

**Not right away, but the Bible says, Jesus called to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" "No," they answered. He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some."**

**Algie** (to volunteer)

**Hold up your net.** (pours fish-shaped crackers into strainer)

**Chauncey**

**When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. It was a miracle!**

**Algernon**

**A miracle!**

**Chauncey**

**A miracle!**

**Algernon** (SFX: glissando)

**A miracle! Wait a tick! This looks familiar! (to volunteer) Doesn't this story look familiar to you?**

**Chauncey**

**That's because He did this before.**

**Algie**

**I knew I recognized this miracle!**

**Chauncey**

**Perhaps the disciples recognized it, as well. Because they suddenly realized it was the Lord and Peter jumped overboard and swam to shore to see the Lord Jesus.**

**Algernon**

**That is wonderful! Thank you, dear friend, for helping us to recognize Jesus. Let's have a round of applause for our volunteer. (Applause) You may be seated. Now, tell me Chauncey, what did the disciples do once they got to shore? Did they ask to see His driver's license or give Him a test to be sure He was really Jesus?**

**Chauncey**

**Nope.**

**Algernon**

**What? No questions at all?**

**Chauncey** (VFX: Scripture slide)

**It says in the Bible, 'Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord.' John 21:12**

**Algernon**

**Ah, they knew it was the Lord...**

**Chauncey**

**...for they recognized His miracle!**

**Algernon**

**Miracle!**

**Chauncey**

**Miracle! I say, Algie, sometimes seeing His miracles helps us recognize Jesus in our own lives.**

**Algie**

**You're right, dear brother! It's one of the many reasons we love to read His Bible stories.**

**Chauncey**

**Those great Bible stories show us who Jesus is and what incredible things He has done.**

**Algie** (VFX: Closing Slide)

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

**Chauncey**

**Good show, Algie! Ta-ta, friends! Try to recognize Jesus in His great miracles and in the simple things too— look for Him everywhere, everyday! (SFX: "The Entertainer")**

**Algie and Chauncey**

**Tally ho!!**

(they exit)