



**Worship Illustration: Script**  
***The Adventures of the Bonzai Brothers***  
**God of Wonders Part 1: Miracles of Jesus**  
**Unit 4, Lesson 18**

# **Walking on Water**

**Matthew 14:22-34**

**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:** Algie (Algernon) is a former World War1 British Air Force pilot turned missionary. He is one of the two Bonzai Brothers. Popsy is the Bonzai Brothers' father. He is brave, brash and very Scottish.

**Plot:** Popsy tries to get Algie to join the Bonzai family rescue team but Algie admits he is afraid. Popsy tells the story of how Jesus and Peter walked on water. We learn that if we keep our eyes on Jesus He will walk with us through every storm.

**Costumes:** Algeron: Brown Bomber jacket, khaki pants, aviator cap and goggles, work boots, scarf; Popsy: Kilt, tam, mustache, boots

**Props:** Bible, radio reception device, vest, rescue pack, spray bottles filled with water or water pistols.

**Sound effects (SFX):**

1. Intro music suggestion: "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin
2. Rescue Pack music suggestion: Indiana Jones theme
3. Wind
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. Scripture slide: ***But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" Matthew 14:30***
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

**The Bonzai Brothers**  
**Unit 4, Lesson 18**  
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**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”)

**Algie** (enters at hangar)

**Hullo there, mates! Colonel Bonzai here! Last week the Bonzai family rescued Pepper from those bad guys and now Popsy thinks he’s a rescue ranger.** (SFX: Indiana Jones theme)

**Popsy** (swings in)

**Ah-ah-ah-ahh! Popsy to the rescue!**

**Algie**

**Popsy! You scared me senseless!**

**Popsy**

**Ah, there you are, Algie. I want to show you something. I need a volunteer.** (Choose a boy as volunteer.) **All right, pretend you’re a bad guy and I’ll show you how to tackle a dangerous scalliwag!** (Lifts boy.)

**Algie**

**Popsy, put him down! You can’t go around mangling small children!**

**Popsy** (Lowers boy.)

**Sorry. You think I should mangle a bigger one?**

**Algie**

**No! You shouldn’t be mangling people at all!**

**Popsy**

**Party pooper! All right laddy, thanks for your help, you can have a seat. Let’s have a round of applause for my wrassling partner.**

**Algie**

**Popsy, he is not your wrestling partner! You can’t wrestle children!**

**Popsy**

**Well how else can I get in shape?**

**Algie**

**What are you getting in shape for?**

**Popsy**

**For our new business, the Bonzai Family Rescue Patrol!**

**Algie**

**Popsy, you’re going to become a rescue ranger?!**

**Popsy**

**No...we’re going to become rescue rangers! Welcome to the club, Ranger Algie!**

**Algie**

**Wait just a tick, Popsy! Chauncey and I already have a business, delivering supplies to missionaries!**

**Popsy**

**Not to worry, I already talked to Chauncey and we’re going to do both! While we’re delivering supplies, we can rescue people in trouble!**

**Algie**

**No, we can’t!**

**Popsy**

**Sure we can! I’ve got a rescue pack! (sings) “The Rescue Pack, comin’ to the rescue! The Rescue Pack!”**

**Algie**

No, Popsy! I don't mean you *can't*, I mean...well...Mumsy's never going to go for this.

**Popsy**

She already has! She's the one who designed the logo!

**Algie**

Well...if we leave whose gonna protect Pepper!

**Popsy**

Pepper's on the team. Mumsy's giving him his first Kung Fu lesson right now.

**Algie**

I see...well...who'll be left to feed 800 Pound Gorilla?

**Popsy**

Nice try! 800 Pound Gorilla is flying the helicopter. Come on, Algie, what's the real problem? Why don't you want to be a rescue ranger?

**Algie**

Well...the problem is...um, it's just that... Oh Popsy, I'm frightened!

**Popsy**

Is that all? That's nothin' new. We all get scared sometimes.

**Algie**

We do? Even you?

**Popsy**

Well, no. Not me, but everyone else does. But it's nothin' to be ashamed of, even Peter got scared.

**Algie**

Peter, the disciple? But, I thought he was a big, strong, muscle-ly fisherman.

**Popsy**

Aye, he was. Many of the disciples were big, muscle-ly fishermen. But they still got scared. Let me get the Bible out and show ya. (SFX: "There Can Be Miracles," VFX: Light shines from Cargo Crate) Here we go. Jesus had spent the whole day preaching, so He sent His disciples ahead of Him to take a boat across the Sea of Galilee.

**Algie**

Crossing the sea sounds scary!

**Popsy**

Aye, at times it was. Late in the day, the disciples put their boat into the sea while Jesus went up on a mountain to pray. The disciples were alone on the deep sea in the dark of night. (VFX: Quick fade) Just then a mighty wind began to blow. The wind was howlin'! (SFX: Wind)

**Algie**

Popsy, I'm frightened!

**Popsy**

So were the disciples! (squirt spray bottles) I imagine the waves were crashing over the bow of their wee little boat! The rough seas were tossin' that boat all over the place!

**Algie**

What did they do?!

**Popsy**

They looked out over the water and saw a man walking towards them.

**Algie**

Walking on the water! Were they frightened?!

**Popsy**

They were freaked out! They thought it was a ghost! (SFX: Wind) Then Jesus said, "Don't be afraid."

**Algie**

Jesus was walking on the water?!

**Popsy**

**Aye! And Peter said, "Lord, if it's you, tell me to come to you on the water." So Jesus said, "Come." Then Peter got out of the boat and walked toward Jesus.**

**Algie**

**What? Peter walked on water too?!**

**Popsy** (VFX: Scripture Slide)

**Aye, but the Bible says, "But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"**

**Algie**

**Did Jesus save him?! Did He?!**

**Popsy**

**Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. It was a miracle!**

**Algie**

**A miracle!**

**Popsy**

**A miracle!**

**Algie**

**A miracle! Popsy, Jesus walked on water and He saved Peter and the disciples from the wind and waves!**

**Popsy**

**That's what I'm tellin' ya, boy-o! When we are facin' danger, Jesus is always there! We keep our eyes on our Lord, not on our fear!**

**Algie**

**Wowzers, Popsy, That's how Jesus works in my life! Whenever I'm in danger, as long as I keep my eyes on Jesus, I won't be afraid.**

**Popsy**

**So, you're not afraid at all?**

**Algie**

**When I stay focused on Jesus, I'm not afraid of anything!**

**Popsy**

**Not even being a rescue ranger?**

**Algie**

**No sir! I'm ready to join the team!**

**Popsy**

**Welcome aboard! Together, we Bonzais are gonna be incredible!**

**Algie** (VFX: Closing Slide)

**Well, you know the Bonzai motto!**

**Popsy**

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

**Algie** (SFX: "The Entertainer")

**Let's go tell the gang!**

(they exit)