

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.

<u>Characters</u>: Popsy is the Bonzai Brothers' father. He is brave, brash and very Scottish. Wyoming Jones is a near-sighted expert explorer and a jungle rescuer.

**Plot:** Popsy tells his friend Wyoming Jones about the day Jesus healed a blind man. We learn Jesus is the Light of the world.

<u>Costumes</u>: Popsy: Kilt, tam, mustache, boots; Wyoming Jones: Boy Scout uniform, thick glasses

**Props:** Bible

Worship Illustration: Script
The Adventures of the Bonzai Brothers
God of Wonders Part 1: Miracles of Jesus
Unit 4, Lesson 19

## Giving Sight to a Man Born Blind

John 9:1-39

#### **Sound effects (SFX):**

- 1. Intro music suggestion: "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin
- 2. Rescue Pack music suggestion: Indiana Jones theme
- 3. Jungle animal sounds
- 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. Overhead Spotlight
- 3. Cargo crate contains the Bible. Whenever it is opened, light shines out and theme song plays
- 4. Scripture slide: While I am in the world, I am the light of the world. John 9:5
- 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 4, Lesson 19 Giving Sight to a Man Born Blind John 9:1-39

#### **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")

#### **Popsy** (enters at hangar)

Hullo there, children! Popsy here! We've been preparing for our new business, "The Bonzai Family Rescue Patrol!" Mumsy is a great wilderness cook, my boys are expert pilots but, and I'm really good at wrassling huge beasties and bad guys. But we needed somebody to help us find our way through the blinding jungles and uncharted countries. So, allow me to introduce our new rescuer and my good friend, Wyoming Jones! (SFX: Indiana Jones theme)

Wyoming (crosses to worship stage)
Clear a path, clear a path! Hello kids! It's
me, Wyoming Jones!

<u>Popsy</u> Over here, Wyoming,

Wyoming (crosses to hangar)
Ah there you are!

#### **Popsy**

You are an expert at rescuing people from the jungles without a map or a trail! How do you do that?

#### **Wyoming**

Well Popsy, there are a couple of secrets to rescuing lost people. Number two...

#### **Popsy**

Number one.

#### **Wyoming**

Right! Number one, the person needs to realize they are lost and want to be rescued.

#### **Popsy**

That makes sense. What's the second thing?

#### **Wyoming**

Number three.

#### **Popsy**

Two!

#### **Wyoming**

Right! Number two is, "When you can't see a clear path, walk toward the light."

#### **Popsy**

Walk toward the light? But why?

#### **Wyoming**

I'll show you. Let's pretend that we're lost in a forest or jungle. (VFX: Dim lights, SFX: Jungle animals) Wow, it's a little dark and scary.

#### Popsy

I thought you were an explorer!

#### Wvoming

I am, but sometimes there are trees, vines and branches in the way and the jungle gets scary dark. (VFX: Overhead spotlight)
But, if we look up to the sun we can walk towards higher ground, send a signal and be rescued! (walks out of the light)

#### **Popsy**

Wyoming, the lights over here! Hey! That reminds me of Jesus!

#### **Wyoming**

Jesus was lost in the jungle? Don't worry! I'll rescue Him!

#### **Popsy**

No Wyoming, Jesus was never lost, but He did teach us about looking to the light and being rescued. Have a seat I'll show ya! (Wyoming sits on Bible box) Uh...Wyoming?

#### **Wyoming**

Yes?

#### **Popsy**

You need to move your bottom.

#### **Wyoming**

**Okay.** (Wyoming shakes his bottom)

#### **Popsy**

I meant sit somewhere else.

#### **Wyoming**

Oh! (moves to swing)

#### **Popsy**

Thanks. (<u>SFX</u>: "There Can Be Miracles," <u>VFX</u>: Light shines from Cargo Crate) In this story Jesus healed a man who was born blind.

#### **Wyoming**

Born blind? Well...then...did God make a mistake?

#### **Popsy**

Nope! God never makes mistakes! Jesus said this happened so God's work could be shown in his life.

#### Wyoming

Did God work in his life?

#### **Popsy**

He did! Jesus spit on the ground, made some mud, put it on the man's eyes and told him to wash the mud off in the Pool of Siloam.

#### Wyoming

Did the man do it?

#### **Popsy**

Of course! And when he washed off the mud, he was healed and could see! It was a miracle!

#### Wyoming

That's a nice story.

#### **Popsy**

Okay Wyoming, let me explain: When one of us shouts "a miracle", you shout "a miracle!" Let's try again. The man was healed and could see! It was a miracle!

#### **Wyoming**

A miracle!

#### **Popsy**

A miracle!

#### **Wyoming**

A miracle! So, everyone was excited by the miracle Lord
Jesus did!

#### **Popsy**

You'd think they would be, but there was a group of Jewish leaders called Pharisees who were upset because Jesus broke their rule by healing he man on the Sabbath, the day of rest!

#### **Wyoming**

What? Weren't they happy that the man could see?

#### **Popsy**

Nope! They were so busy worrying over the rules that they completely missed the miracle!

#### **Wyoming**

A miracle!

#### **Popsy**

A miracle! Very good, Wyoming! You're learning.

#### **Wyoming**

But the Pharisees weren't learning. They remind me of the people who don't realize they're lost and need to be rescued.

#### **Popsy**

Aye, it's true. They were too proud to look up and see the light, but the blind man was about to see the light for sure! Jesus asked the man if he believed in the Son of Man. That's what they called the Savior.

#### **Wyoming**

What did the man say?

#### **Popsy**

He asked, "Who is he, sir? Tell me so that I may believe in him."

#### **Wyoming**

Did Jesus tell the man that He was the Son of Man?

#### **Popsy**

Yes! And the man said, "Lord, I believe."

#### **Wyoming**

Amen! That man was a double rescue!
Jesus saved him from the darkness of his blind eyes AND saved him from the darkness of a heart that didn't believe in Jesus.

#### Wyoming

That reminds me of rule number four!

#### **Popsy**

Two.

#### Wyoming

Right! Rule number two: When you can't see a clear path, walk toward the light!

#### **Popsy** (VFX: Scripture slide)

Jesus said that is the reason He came - to be the light. Jesus said, "While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world." John 9:5

#### **Wyoming**

It's true — Jesus came, and the blind man could see! He not only saw Jesus with his eyes, he saw with his heart that Jesus was his Savior. That's incredible!

#### **Popsy** (VFX: Closing slide)

You just said one of my favorite words! Let's all say the Bonzai motto: "It's incredible but true, what the God of Wonders can do!" (SFX: "The Entertainer") So long, kids!

#### **Wyoming**

**Keep looking to the light!** (starts to go down ramp)

#### **Popsy**

This way, Wyoming!

### Wyoming

Right!

(they exit)