



**Worship Illustration: Script**  
***The Adventures of the Bonzai Brothers***  
**God of Wonders Part 1: Miracles of Jesus**  
**Unit 4, Lesson 21**

# Appearing to Disciples

**Luke 24:36-49**

**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. Pepper is a bird puppet (pelican or parrot).

**Plot:** This is the final illustration in the Bonzai Brothers series. Algie is afraid to leave the island. Chauncey tells him how Jesus appeared to His disciples and told them to spread the word about repentance and forgiveness to all nations. We learn Jesus will open our minds to understand His Word, and He will give us power to spread His word.

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

**Props:** Bible

**Sound effects (SFX):**

1. Intro music suggestion: "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin
2. Chase theme suggestion: Yakety Sax
3. Glissando
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. Map of Uganda
3. Cargo crate contains the Bible. Whenever it is opened, light shines out and theme song plays
4. Scripture slide: ***Then He opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. Luke 24:45***
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**  
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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**

**Tally ho! Colonel Bonzai here!**

**Pepper** (pops up)

**And Pepper Pelican here!**

**Algie**

**We have terrifically sad news! This will be our last visit with you for a while.**

**Pepper**

**The good new is: the Bonzai Family Rescue Patrol is ready to launch on our first exciting mission!**

**Algie**

**We are? Already?!**

**Pepper** (VFX: Map of Uganda) **Yup! We're going to Uganda - a wonderful country in central Africa. We're going to rescue some sick children by flying in some doctors and medicine. And while I'm there I think I'll practice my Kung Fu skills on a rhinoceros!**

**Algie**

**I don't know if it's such a good idea.**

**Pepper**

**Why not?! You don't think I can handle it? I'm not afraid of any old rhino! I am the Kung Fu master! I'm so tough, I make Chuck Norris look like Winnie the Pooh!**

**Algie**

**I meant I don't think it's a good idea for me to go to Uganda.**

**Pepper**

**What? Why not? Are you having doubts again?**

**Algie**

**Well...it's just I would miss the island and the kids might need me and I'm not sure God really wants me to go...so, I'm just going to stay here until God shows me a miracle!**

**Pepper**

**A miracle?**

**Algie**

**That's right, a miracle.**

**Pepper**

**Are you kidding me? That's all God's been doing for the last five months! Haven't you noticed all of the miracles He has shown us?! Jesus changed water to wine, He filled the nets, He calmed the storm, He healed Jairus' daughter, He fed 5,000 people, He healed the Centurion's servant, the paralyzed friend, the sick woman, the deaf and mute man, the ten lepers, He banished demons, saved the official's son, walked on water, gave sight to a blind man, raised Lazarus from the dead, died on the cross, was raised from the dead, appeared to His disciples, and helped Thomas to believe, went up to His throne in heaven, and He'd better catch me now, 'cause I'm about to pass out from saying all of that in one breath! Huh! (collapses)**

**Algie**

**Well, those were all important miracles but, unless the Lord talks to me personally, I'm not going!**

**Pepper**

**You've lost your mind! I'm going to call your brother to help you find it! Oh Chauncey!** (exits)

**Algie**

**Well, go ahead; call Chauncey! See if I care. While you're at it why don't you tell Mumsy and Popsy and 800 Pound Gorilla?! Once a Bonzai makes up his mind there's nothing to it! So there!**

**Chauncey** (enters)

**You can say that again.**

**Algie**

**Once a Bonzai makes up his mind there's nothing to it!**

**Chauncey**

**Well, I am here to help you change your mind!**

**Algie**

**Well, you can talk all you want but I am not going to budge!**

**Chauncey** (lift Algie)

**Then I'll make you budge!**

**Algie**

**Put me down! Put me down, I say!**

**Chauncey**

**Are you going to come along peacefully or are you going to kick and scream like a little boo boo kitty?!**

**Algie**

**Um...I'm going to kick and scream like a little boo boo kitty! Now put me down!** (SFX: Yakety Sax) (Chauncey puts him down; Algie runs as Chauncey chases)

**Chauncey**

**Algie, come back here!**

**Algie**

**Can't catch me! Na-na-na-boo-boo!**

**Chauncey** (sits on swing)

**Fine! Stay here and pout if you like!**

**Algie** (slowly comes back on stage)

**I'm glad you see it my way!**

**Chauncey**

**I don't. But I wish you'd open your mind a bit, Algie. I believe God wants us to go.**

**Algie**

**How do you know?**

**Chauncey**

**Because, I read it in the Bible.**

**Algie**

**Well, I read the Bible, too!**

**Chauncey**

**Well, let's read it together and ask God to help us understand.** (SFX: "There Can Be Miracles," VFX: Light shines from Cargo Crate)  
**Ah, here we are. This is another time when Jesus appeared to His disciples after His death.**

**Algie**

**Were they frightened?**

**Chauncey**

**They were. They thought He was a ghost. So Jesus showed His hands and feet to prove it was really Him.**

**Algie**

**Ah, then they believed Him?!**

**Chauncey**

**No. They still didn't. So Jesus asked for something to eat. They gave Him a piece of fish and He ate it!**

**Algie**

**Only a man with a body could eat food. So, did they believe Him?**

**Chauncey** (VFX: Scripture slide)

**Yes. They believed it was Jesus and the Bible says: *Then He opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.***

**Algie**

**Well, I understand the Scriptures.**

**Chauncey**

**Then listen to this! He said, "The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.**

**Algie (SFX: Glissando)**

**I think I understand! God's forgiveness is to be shared with *all* nations! We must spread the word!**

**Chauncey**

**That's right, Algie.**

**Algie**

**But how is the world going to hear about the miracle love of Jesus unless we tell them?**

**Chauncey**

**That's right, Algie!**

**Algie**

**Chauncey! I've been waiting for a sign, but God already told us to spread His word to all nations!**

**Chauncey**

**You've got it, Algie! I think God opened your mind to understand the Scriptures!**

**Algernon**

**He surely did! It's a miracle!**

**Chauncey**

**A miracle!**

**Algernon (VFX: Closing Slide)**

**A miracle! Chauncey, we've got to tell the whole world that Jesus is incredible! Let's get going!**

**Chauncey**

**Wait! Let's all say our motto one last time:**

**All**

**"It's incredible but true, what the God of Wonders can do!"**

**Algie**

**Good show, Chauncey! Ta-ta, friends! Have fun and remember to tell the world that Jesus came to be our Savior! (SFX: "The Entertainer")**

**Chauncey**

**Amen! Tally ho!!**

**Algie**

**Tally ho!!**

(they exit)