Hagar and Ishmael

Genesis 16:1-16; 21:8-21

Running time: Approximately 6 minutes

Set: The set for God of Wonders Units 7-10 is designed as a seventeenth century pirate ship viewed from the port (left) side. The Caribbean Queen's bow is stage right. On stage left, there is a raised wheelhouse with a door to the Captain's quarters. Characters and puppets may pop up from several trap doors in the deck and from the crow's nest near the top of the center stage mast. There is a pulley system to raise the treasure chest from below deck where the Bible is kept. For added interest, build windows, entrances, and levels where the characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

Characters: Ripply Waters is the fearless Quartermaster. He is a true friend to Captain Billy. Matey (Nigel) is a simple, sweet-natured midshipman with a true servant's heart.

Plot: Matey wants to run away because the men are mean to him. Ripply tells him how God protected Hagar and her son Ishmael. We learn God always keeps His promise to watch over His children.

Costumes: Ripply: Blousy shirt, vest, belt, boots, scarf; Matey: Striped shirt, stocking cap, short trousers (Capri pants), slippers

Props: Bible, treasure chest, swords, bandana on a stick

Sound effects (SFX):
1. Intro/Outro music suggestion: "Pirate Theme" from productiontrax.com tracks #19253 or #40794
2. Treasure chest suggestion: Music with voiceover as chests opens to reveal Bible: **"His Words for you are treasures true!"**

Visual effects (VFX):
1. Video Intro is available at ResourceWell.org
2. Treasure chest contains the Bible. Whenever it is opened, light shines out and music with voiceover plays.
3. Scripture slide: **You are the God who sees me. Genesis 16:13**
4. Closing Slide: "**May the God of Wonders fill your sails and guide your path!**"

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

Voice over (VFX: Video bump)
Ahoy lads and lassies! There be a legend centuries old of a lost treasure, more valuable than gold! Though the pirates searched both land and sea, they could not find where it might be! Until Captain Billy sailed the ocean blue and brought that treasure home to you. So grab yer treasure map, climb aboard the Caribbean Queen and join us as Captain Billy Ocean and his crew unveil the greatest wonders God has ever shown!

Matey (pops up)
Ahoy kids! My name is Nigel but everyone around here calls me Matey. I'm the midshipman. That means I'm in charge of the middle of the ship from here to about here. But not for long! I'm leaving the Caribbean Queen. Ya see, Captain Billy Ocean and Ripply give me orders, then I have to tell the men what to do and they get mad at me! I can't take it anymore! So, I packed my things and I'm going to leave before anyone knows I'm gone.

Ripply (offstage)
Matey! Matey, where are ye?

Matey (hiding)
Uh-oh, that's Ripply. I've got to hide! Don't tell him you saw me.

Ripply (pops up)
Matey, where ye be? I need you on deck toot sweet! Ahoy there, kids. You haven't seen Matey, have you? (response) **Aha, there you are!**

Matey
Arg! You spotted me!

Ripply
Matey, why was you hiding? And what's with the runnin' away bag? Was you runnin' away from home?

Matey
No, I wasn't runnin' away from home. I was runnin' away from boat. Oh, sir, I just don't feel like anybody appreciates me.

Ripply
What are ye talkin' about? The men was just sayin' how much fun they have with ya?

Matey
This week alone they stuffed me in a barrel, locked me in the powder room, and hung me from the main sail by my ankles!

Ripply
See what I mean, that was loads of fun!

Matey
Not for me! Face it, sir, the men hate me because I make them do their chores.

Ripply
Hate is such a strong word. They're just funnin' with ya. They don't mean no harm.

Matey
Well, I don't have to stay here and be disrespected! I can go lots of places and be disrespected! I'm leaving! Don't try and stop me!

Ripply
Wait Matey! I think God has a plan for you here onboard the Caribbean Queen. You remind me of Hagaaar.

Matey
Who is Hagar?

Ripply
**No it's Hagaaar; she be in the Bible. She were Sarai's servant. Sarai was Abram's wife. Let me get the traysure map out and I'll show ya! ** ! (Opens chest, SFX: Voiceover with music, VFX: light shines from Treasure Chest)

Voiceover with music
"His Words for you are treasures true!"

Ripply
Do you remember when God promised to make Abram the father of a great nation?

Matey
He promised him more grandkids than all the dust of the earth!

Ripply
Right, only Abram and Sarai grew very old and still had not had a baby. So, Sarai asked her servant Hagaaar to marry Abram and have a baby for her.

Matey
That's probably not a good idea.

Ripply
You're probably right, but, Hagaaar married him and when she got pregnant, that's when the trouble started. Hagaar started hating Sarai, and then Sarai treated Hagaar so badly that she ran away!

Matey
That's how I felt!

Ripply
But The Angel of the Lord found her in the desert and he told her to go home to Sarai. He told Haggai she would have a baby boy named Ishmael. He promised her that God would give her more grandchildren than she could possibly count!

Matey
That's what God promised Abram!

Ripply
That's right. It made Hagaaar happy that someone cared about her. She gave God a special name. She said, *"You are the God who sees me."* (VFX: Scripture slide)

Matey
Did she go back to Sarai and have Abram's baby?

Ripply
Aye, and she called him Ishmael.

Matey
Then was everything all right?

Ripply
For a while. But then God changed Abram and Sarah's name to Abraham and Sarah- and God gave them baby Isaac.

Matey
That's a big miracle because Sarah was very old!

Ripply
Ninety years old, But, that be a story for another time. Sarah saw Hagaaar's son making fun of Isaac, so she told Abraham to get rid of Hagaaar and her son.

Matey
But Ishmael was his son too!

Ripply
Aye, it made Abraham sad but God told him not to worry- that He would take care of Ishmael and Hagaaar. God promised to make Ishmael into a great nation also.

Matey
There's that promise again!

Ripply
Abraham gave Hagaaar and Ishmael food and water and let them go out into the desert. It must've broke his heart.

Matey
What happened! Did they survive?

Ripply
They almost didn't make it! *Then God heard the boy crying and the angel of God called Hagar from heaven.* It probably sounded like this: "Hagaaaaar!"

Matey
Ooh, I like the way you say that, Sir! Can we all say it?

Ripply
Sure, let's try it together! "Hey Haygaaaar!" Longer, stretch it out, "Haygaaar!" The angel called to Hagar and told her God had heard her boy crying, and He would make Ishmael into a great nation. Then God opened her eyes to see a well full of water for them.

Matey
I knew it! I knew it! So, God kept His promise!

Ripply
Aye, God kept rescuing Ishmael and Hagaar because they belonged to Abraham and God had promised to bless *all* of Abraham's family!

Matey
That's beautiful sir. God watched over Hagar and Ishmael! He really *is* the God who sees!

Ripply
Aye, God is always lookin' out fer his people.

Matey
Sir, do you think God sees me?

Ripply
Of course He does! God loves and looks out for all of His children!

Matey
Well, could you…I mean could I have permission to stay aboard?

Ripply
I thought you was runnin' away.

Matey
I was but, now I see it's no use to run away. God can bless me right here. Permission to stay aboard?

Ripply
Permission granted!

Matey (exits)
Hooray! I'm gonna tell the men! Guess what fellas? God sees me!

Ripply
Let that be a lesson to you, kids! Don't go lookin' for smoother waters. God can bless you wherever you are. He's the God who sees us! Well kids, until next time May the God of Wonders fill your sails and guide your path! (exit)