



Worship Illustration: Script
High Seas Adventures
God of Wonders Part 2: Genesis - Joshua
Unit 9, Lesson 45

The Wilderness

Numbers 20:1-13, 22:21-38

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: Ripply is mad at the cook. Matey tells him we should not use angry words. He tells how Moses and Aaron got angry with God's people and how Balaam got mad at his donkey. We learn we should only say the words that God puts in our mouths.

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

Props: Bibles, treasure chest, donkey tube or stuffed toy donkey

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 1: ***But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them." Numbers 20:12***
4. Scripture Slide 2: ***Well, I have come to you now," Balaam replied. "But can I say just anything? I must speak only what God puts in my mouth." Numbers 22:38***
5. 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

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Numbers 20:1-13, 22:21-38

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!

Ripply (pops up)

Ahoy kids! I am so angry at the cook! Last night and I had to work through dinner watching out for enemy vessels. I didn't get done until midnight! So, I went down to the galley, that's what we call the kitchen. I asked the cook for some food. He said, "Too late, kitchen's closed!" I was angry! If I wasn't so tired from hunger I would have ..."

Matey (pops up, interrupting)

Ahoy there, Ripply Waters!

Ripply

Oh, hey there, Nigel.

Matey

The cook was looking for you.

Ripply

Oh, he was, was he?

Matey

Aye, it's your turn for kitchen patrol!

Ripply

Well, I ain't goin' near that kitchen.

Matey

You have to. Cook has a whole pile of potatoes he needs you to peel.

Ripply

I ain't doin' it!

Matey

But you have to! Cook's making mashed potaters!

Ripply

I'll mash his potater!

Matey

With strained carrots....

Ripply

I'll strain his carrots!

Matey

And roasted bottom round!

Ripply

I'll roast his...!

Matey

Don't say it! I'm sensing some anger here.

Ripply

I'm so mad at that cook I could chew marshmallows and spit taffy!

Matey

That's impressive but you should not say angry things, sir!

Ripply

Why not?

Matey

We should always say and do things that honor God. Acting in anger can get you in lots of trouble.

Like what happened to Moses.

Ripply

Moses lost his temper?

Matey

Oh yes. Let me get the Traysure map and show you, right now!

(Opens treasure chest, SFX: Voiceover with music, VFX: light shines from Treasure Chest)

Ripply

Moses seemed like such a godly fella. I can't see him getting angry.

Matey (picks up staff)

Oh, he did! There was this one time when Moses was leading God's people through the desert. They were thirsty and very grumpy! They started complaining against Moses and his brother Aaron!

Ripply

What did they say?

Matey

They said crazy things like "This desert is a terrible place with no water! You should have just let us die in Egypt!"

Ripply

Did Moses lead them back there?

Matey

Oh no, God told him to gather the people at the big rock and then speak to the rock and drinking water would pour out.

Ripply

Water from a rock? That would be a miracle!

Matey

Well, God is in the business of sending us miracles.

Ripply

So, did Moses talk to the Rock?

Matey

No, Moses was angry with the people so he yelled at them and struck the rock with his staff.

Ripply

Did water pour out?

Matey (VFX: Scripture Slide 1) **It did! God promised to send them water and God always keeps His promise. But, Moses and Aaron had not obeyed God. The Bible says: *But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them."* Numbers 20:12**

Ripply

What land are you talking about?

Matey

God had promised to lead the Israelites into a new land.

Ripply

Oh, but because Moses and Aaron didn't control their anger, they wasn't allowed to go?

Matey

That's right. They forgot to honor God with their words and actions.

Ripply

Aye, they were stubborn as mules!

Matey

Some people are more hard headed than a mule! Like old Balaam.

Ripply

Refresh my memory, which one was Balaam?

Matey

He were a fella that was headed to Moab to curse God's people by saying bad things that he hoped would happen to them.

Ripply

He didn't do that, did he?

Matey (donkey flotation device)

He tried! He rode on his donkey for Moab but God sent an angel with a sword to block his path!

Ripply

Whoa, did Balaam stop?

Matey

Nope, he never saw the angel but his donkey did and she tried three times to turn off the road! Each time Balaam beat the donkey and yelled at her.

Ripply

That's no way to treat an animal!

Matey

That's what the donkey thought She told Balaam to stop it! She said, "What have I done to make you beat me these three times?"

Ripply

The donkey talked to him? Wow, it's not every day you see a talking donkey.

Matey

It's not every day you see an angel on the highway either. God can do anything! Finally God showed the angel to Balaam, as well.

Ripply

What did the angel say?

Matey

He said why do you keep beating your donkey? If she hadn't turned away, I would have killed you by now!

Ripply

Wow, so the donkey saved Balaam.

Matey (VFX: Scripture Slide 2)

Aye, she wisely chose to obey God and His angel! When Balaam got to Moab, he could not even curse the people. Look what he said to the king: *"Well, I have come to you now," Balaam replied. "But can I say just anything? I must speak only what God puts in my mouth." Numbers 22:38*

Ripply

I guess it would be wise for all of us to only say the words that God puts in our mouths.

Matey

Angry words and actions got Moses, Aaron and then Balaam in trouble...

Ripply

And it'll get me in trouble too. I've got to learn to control my temper. I'm going to go down to the galley and apologize to the cook. (exit)

Matey (SFX: Outro music)

Oh goody, we can have mashed potatoes after all! So long kids! May the God of Wonders guide your tongues and fill your bellies! (He exits) (VFX: Closing slide)