



Jesus Calls His Disciples

Luke 5:1-11

Running time: Approximately 6 minutes

Set: The set for Units 1-4 is designed to look like a Medieval Castle. It is the Palace of the King. There is a curtained opening center stage, a ramp stage right and an upper level where characters can enter. There is a window stage left for puppets and a hinged stained glass window stage right that opens to reveal the Bible. For added interest, build windows and levels where the characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

Characters: Theophilus is the Keeper of the King's Gardens. He is a wise, old sage with the wisdom of the ages and great knowledge of God's Word. Squire Goofus, the Gallant, is a young man who wants desperately to be a noble knight in the King's Guard. He is very naïve and a bit clumsy. Rufus is a dragon puppet who thinks he is a dog. He delivers messages from the King.

Plot: Theophilus gets a message that Goofus is going home because he does not feel called by the King. Theophilus tells how Jesus called His disciples. We learn that the Lord calls us all to leave everything to follow and serve Him.

Costumes: Robe, tunics, white wig and beard, sandals, boots, chain mail.

Props: Sword, stick horse, dragon puppet, birdhouse, travel bag

Sound effects (SFX):

1. Intro/Outro music suggestions: familiar castle/battle themes from movies such as The Lord of the Rings, or Monty Python and the Holy Grail, or Productiontrax.com – The Price of Freedom, Iron Lore, Prepare for Battle, Rain of Fire -: 80; (i-movies: Timely, pursuit, heroes, flurry, saber.)
2. Horse galloping
3. Trumpet fanfare
4. Stained Glass Window suggestion: "King of Kings and Lord of Lords" from Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" or other royal song clip. Music plays when this window is opened during each episode to reveal the Bible.

Visual effects (VFX):

1. Video Intro featuring knights on horseback is available at ResourceWell.org
2. Hinged, stained glass window holds the Bible. When opened, light shines out and music plays.
3. Scripture Slide: "Don't be afraid; from now on you will catch men." So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him." Luke 5:10b-11
4. Closing Slide: "Serving the King is the noblest thing!"

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 located at ResourceWell.org

Kingdom Adventures
Unit 1, Lesson 4
Jesus Calls His Disciples
Luke 5:1-11

Voiceover: (VFX: Video intro)

In ancient days noble knights roamed the land doing good deeds and acts of service for their king. Many of those brave squires served the greatest Lord of all, the King of Kings! Travel with us now as we ride with these mighty men of God on their quest for Kingdom Adventures!

Theophilus

Hello, hello. It is so good to see you all again. I am looking for our Gallant knight in training. I have come to check up on his progress.

Rufus (offstage)
Bark, bark, bark!

Theophilus (cross to window)
Ah, that sounds like my dear friend Rufus.
(Rufus pops up) **Rufus! How do you do?**

Rufus
Bark! Bark! Bark!

Theophilus
What's that? You have message for me?
Well, speak on, dear dragon.

Rufus
Bark! Bark! Bark! BARK! BARK!

Theophilus
Doggy, I meant doggy!

Rufus
Bark, bark, bark!

Theophilus
What's that? Young Gus, the Gallant?
What about young Gus?

Rufus
Bark! Bark!

Theophilus
He's going? Going where?

Rufus
Bark! Bark! Bark!

Theophilus
To Rome? Oh, I hear it's very nice there in the winter.

Rufus (tosses out a toy/bird house)
Bark! Bark!

Theophilus
Not Rome? To a house? He's going to live in a birdhouse? He's going to the Whitehouse? He's running for President!

Rufus
Bark! Bark! Bark! (Rufus exits.)

Theophilus
Oh, home! He's going home! He's going home? Oh, thank you, Rufus. Thank you for the warning. I shall look for him. (SFX: horse galloping) **Ah, here he comes now.** (to children) **Don't say a word, kids.**

Gus (enters with travel bag)
Theophilus, there you are. You'll never guess what I have to tell you.

Theophilus
You are quitting your training and going back to your happy little village.

Gus
I'm quitting my training and going back to my happy little village. Wait a minute...how did you know?

Theophilus
A little bird told me. So, what made you decide to go home?

Gus
Oh teacher, I'm just not good enough to be a knight.

Theophilus

Not good enough. Is that so?

Gus

Yes. You see, I don't know the Bible by heart, I sometimes do wrong in God's eyes, and believe it or not, I'm not very good with this sword! (drops sword)

Theophilus

Not good with a sword? What a surprise! So, let me get this straight, you don't think you're good enough to serve the King?

Gus

That's it exactly! He's a perfect God! He deserves a perfect servant!

Theophilus

Ha, ha, ha, ha...

Gus

Are you laughing at me?

Theophilus

Oh no, dear Gus, I'm laughing at me...you see, no one, not me, not Sir Praisealot, not even the disciples were perfect! God doesn't call those who are perfect! God calls whomever He chooses.

Gus

Yes...er... well that's another thing. I have never heard God calling me.

Theophilus

Oh no? What were you expecting? A voice from heaven saying, "Gus! Gus! I am calling you! Follow me!"

Gus

That would be helpful. Then I would know that I am good enough to follow Jesus.

Theophilus

Well, not many of us hear His actual voice. But, there are plenty of other ways to hear Jesus calling.

Gus

There are? Like what?

Theophilus

For one thing, we have the Bible - so we'll know God's words.

Gus

You mean God's words could be calling from inside the Bible?

Theophilus

It is called the "Word of God!" I'll get His Word right now! (SFX: "King of Kings and Lord of Lords") Here we are. In this story, Jesus got into the tiny boat of a simple fisherman named Simon Peter. Jesus asked him to put out into the lake where he could teach the people.

Gus

So, Jesus taught from the boat of a simple fisherman named Simon Peter?

Theophilus

Good listening, Gus. After Jesus finished, He told Simon Peter and his friends to put down their nets for a catch of fish.

Gus

What did Simon Peter say?

Theophilus

He said we've been fishing all night without a bite, and haven't even found Nemo, BUT, *because you say so, I will let down the nets.*"

Gus

Did they catch a boatload of fish?

Theophilus

They caught two boatloads! They caught so many fish that both boats began to sink.

Gus

Praise God, what a miracle! So did they follow Jesus so He could catch more fish for them?

Theophilus (VFX: Scripture Slide)
No, Jesus had a different plan. Jesus said, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will catch men." So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him." (VFX: Luke 5:10b-11)

Gus
Oh...they left everything?

Theophilus
Yes, that's the truth. They left everything and followed Him.

Gus
Did Simon Peter leave his boat?

Theophilus
Yes. He left everything.

Gus
Did he leave his nets?

Theophilus
Yes. He left everything.

Gus
Yes, but what about the nets filled with fish? Did Simon Peter leave all that, too?

Theophilus
Yes! Kids what did they leave? (Children respond, "everything.")

Gus
It's amazing what people will leave to follow Jesus!

Theophilus
That's true. Well, good luck Gus, it's been nice knowing you. Have fun in your village.

Gus
Wait! When Jesus said, "Follow Me", He was saying it to Simon Peter, but... is it possible that Jesus meant those words for everyone who reads them – including me?!

Theophilus
Now you're getting it! King Jesus has called all of us to follow Him!

Gus
Aha! At last I have my calling! I shall follow King Jesus for Serving the King is the noblest thing! (VFX: Serving the King is the Noblest thing!) (SFX: Outro music)

Theophilus
Very good, my son. Come, let's go serve Him together. Oh, you forgot your things.

Gus
I didn't forget. I want to leave them behind like some fishermen I know.

Theophilus
Wise choice, my boy, wise choice, indeed. (they exit) (VFX: fade to spot on Gus' bag)