



Recognizing the King

Luke 2:25-38; Matthew 2:1-3, 7-14

Running time: Approximately 4 minutes

Setting: The set for Units 7-10 is designed to look like the outside of the King City Herald, a large newspaper building circa 1940's. A door leads to the office. A phone booth provides the place for the superheroes' quick costume changes. The center panel can be removed to reveal the superheroes "Secret Lab," filled with screens and gadgets (similar to Batman's Bat Cave), where the heroes watch over the city. There is a useable fire escape with a door and a ladder down to ground level. There is a ramp on stage right. For added interest, build windows, entrances, and levels where the characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

Characters: Professor von Himmel is a wise but scatterbrained scientist who loves God (for fun add a German accent). Dr. Sominex is a quirky scientist who has a tendency to fall asleep mid-sentence.

Plot: Professor von Himmel explains to Dr. Sominex how Simeon, Anna, and the Magi all recognized Jesus was the King sent to save us. We learn we can tell all people Jesus is the King.

Costumes: Professor von Himmel: Lab coat, shorts, patterned shirt, suspenders, slippers, white wig, glasses. Dr. Sominex: Lab coat, shorts, Hawaiian shirt, wingtip shoes, afro wig, glasses.

Props: Bible, letter.

2. Newspaper box: "Good news" or other triumphant song clip. Music plays when box is opened to reveal the Bible.
3. Outro music suggestion: Space theme

Visual effects (VFX):

1. Video Intro featuring superheroes is available at ResourceWell.org
2. A newspaper box holds the Bible. When opened, light shines out and music plays.
3. Scripture Slide: **"After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, 'Where is the One who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.' Matthew 2:1-3**
4. Motto Slide: **"Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever!"**

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

Sound effects (SFX):

1. Intro music suggestion: Heroic music

King City Chronicles
Lesson 52
Recognizing the King
Luke 2:25-28; Matthew 2:1-3, 7-14

Voiceover (VFX: short video intro)

Dateline: King City, a city devoted to the glory of God. But in her dark underbelly there are villains gathering...evil men who seek to steal God's glory! Will King City find her hero? Can she be saved and restored to her former glory? For the answer to these questions and more, tune in every week to the King City Chronicles!
(SFX: Heroic music)

Prof. von Himmel (enters)

Hello, hello, hello kiddies. I am Professor von Himmel, the leader of the King City Scientific Outreach! My colleague Dr. Sominex and I have a special New Year's message for you. Dr. Sominex? Dr. Sominex? Where is that doctor? (lifts a cloth, and finds a sleeping doctor) **Dr. Sominex? Dr. Sominex? DOCTOR SOMINEX!!**

Dr. Sominex (jumps up)

The sum of the square root of any two sides of an isosceles triangle is equal to the square root of the remaining side.

Prof. von Himmel

What are you talking about?

Dr. Sominex

Who me? Science!

Prof. von Himmel

Okie dokie. Well, I was just telling the kids about our special New Year's message!

Dr. Sominex

Right...the message...is it in the Bible?

Prof. von Himmel

Of course, it's in the Bible!

Dr. Sominex

I'll get out the Bible, right now! (He opens box, SFX: Good News, VFX: Beam of light shines from box)

(Dr. Sominex snores)

Prof. von Himmel

Dr. Sominex? DOCTOR SOMINEX!!

Dr. Sominex

For every action there is a separate but equal reaction.

Prof. von Himmel

What is that about?

Dr. Sominex

Just science! Let's read the Bible!

Prof. von Himmel

Good idea. Now, it's important to know that when Jesus was born the people of Israel had been waiting hundreds of years for God to send them their Savior and King.

Dr. Sominex

They must have been really old!

Prof. von Himmel

The same people weren't there for the whole time. I mean, the Israelites, the Jewish people, had been waiting a long, long, long time.

Dr. Sominex

Wow, all that waiting must have made them so...tired... (snores)

Prof. von Himmel

Dr. Sominex? DOCTOR SOMINEX!!

Dr. Sominex

E equals M C squared! That's science?

Prof. von Himmel

You really need to get more sleep.

Dr. Sominex

Okay. (lays down)

Prof. von Himmel

Not now! We're in the middle of a story!
Now, the prophets had promised a savior
would come to save all of Israel and
then... silence...

Dr. Sominex

Science?

Prof. von Himmel

No, silence... nothing... until... Jesus!
Then, some people recognized their King.

Dr. Sominex

What King?

Prof. von Himmel

Jesus! Their Savior and King!

Dr. Sominex

Oh, right! They weren't expecting that
kind of King. So, who recognized Him?

Prof. von Himmel

To begin with, Simeon and Anna.

Dr. Sominex

Cinnamon Bananas?

Prof. von Himmel

Not Cinnamon Bananas! Simeon and Anna!
What are you thinking about?

Dr. Sominex

Science, mostly... and lunch. So, who were
Simeon and Anna?

Prof. von Himmel

Simeon was a godly man who was led by
God's Holy Spirit. God had promised
Simeon would not die before he saw the
Savior.

Dr. Sominex

Jesus!

Prof. von Himmel

Yes! One day the Holy Spirit moved
Simeon to go to the temple. On the very
same day, Mary and Joseph brought baby
Jesus to be dedicated to the Lord!

Dr. Sominex

Wow! Too bad Cinnamon didn't meet
them.

Prof. von Himmel

Simeon! And he did meet them! He held
baby Jesus in His arms and said, "...my
eyes have seen your salvation."

Dr. Sominex

What did Mary and Joseph think?

Prof. von Himmel

They were amazed because Simeon told
them all of the great things Jesus was
going to do. Also, in the same temple
there was a prophetess named...

Dr. Sominex

Banana!

Prof. von Himmel

No, Anna! She was a lady prophet. Do you
know what a prophet is?

Dr. Sominex

Anything over ten percent?

Prof. von Himmel

You're not going to make this easy, are
you?

Dr. Sominex

Nope.

Prof. von Himmel

A prophet is a person who hears from God
and then tells others what God has said.
The Prophetess Anna also recognized that
Jesus was the one God had sent as Savior
and King.

Dr. Sominex

Well, that makes sense. Simeon and Anna
both loved God, so of course they could
recognize Jesus. Good night! (snores)

Prof. von Himmel

No, wake up! Wake up! That's not the end!
You have to hear about the Magi!

Dr. Sominex
What's a Magi?

Prof. von Himmel
You probably know them as the wise men that followed the star to find baby Jesus. They recognized Jesus as the King of the Jews. But, it was even obvious to bad guys.

Dr. Sominex (looks around)
Bad guys! What bad guys? Where?

Prof. von Himmel (VFX: scripture slide)
Well, King Herod for one. He was the Roman king at that time. Listen to what the Bible says, *"After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, 'Where is the One who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.'"*

Dr. Sominex
So, that's why they brought Him gifts—to worship Him!

Prof. von Himmel
Yes, but listen to this part. *"When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him."*

Dr. Sominex
Why was King Herod disturbed?

Prof. von Himmel
He felt threatened because he was the king and he did not want any king, even a king sent from God, to take away his throne.

Dr. Sominex
But Jesus wasn't the kind of king who wanted crowns or riches. He's the King who wants our hearts.

Prof. von Himmel
Exactly!

Dr. Sominex
We should tell everyone in the whole universe all about our King!

Prof. von Himmel
Dr. Sominex, you just gave me a great idea!

Dr. Sominex
I did? Are you sure it was me?

Prof. von Himmel
Yes, we should tell everyone in the universe about the King and I know just how to do it! We'll use Skylab Omega!

Dr. Sominex
Remind me what that is again.

Prof. von Himmel
It's the project we've been working on for years!

Dr. Sominex
Oh, that!

Prof. von Himmel
Skylab Omega is the most spectacular spaceship we have ever created and we've got the greatest pilot ever to steer that ship, Commander Cosmos!

Dr. Sominex
Let's go get it ready!

Prof. von Himmel
Another great idea! See you next time, kids. And remember, Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever! (SFX: Space theme, VFX: Motto Slide)

(exit)