



Worship Illustration: Script
Kingdom Adventures
Kings & Kingdoms Part 1: The Life of Jesus
Unit 2, Lesson 11

Jesus and Zacchaeus

Luke 19:1-10

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: Prince Lovesalot is a young prince who is simply overflowing with love for all people and all of God's creation. He wants the whole world to know the love of the King. He speaks with a rural "country" accent. Robespierre is a cheating, lying enemy who comes to trick the servants of the King. He speaks with a French accent.

Plot: Prince Lovesalot has the opportunity to teach Robespierre about the time Jesus met Zacchaeus. We learn that meeting Jesus can change the heart of any sinner.

Costumes: Basket, crown, cape, heart covered trousers, wig, musketeer hat, velvet pants, animal print robe, wig, mustache, dress.

Props: Rose petals, Bible.

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. Song clip: "All You Need is Love" by The Beatles
3. 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. Today the Bible is missing. When opened, light shines out and music plays.
3. Scripture Slide: "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost." Luke 19:10
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

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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! (SFX: All You Need is Love)

Lovesalot (enters tossing rose petals) Hello, you beautiful creatures! You look so lovely today. I love you all! Big love! Big love! Hello again all of you beautiful people! It is I, Prince Lovesalot! Does it not fill your heart with joy to be in His glorious kingdom? I so enjoy roaming the countryside, visiting the servants of the King and spreading the love to all whom I encounter! Ah, the only thing that could make this day better is if I had the Word of God in my hands. Wait just a little old minute; I *can* have the Word of God! After all it is for everyone. Let me get it! (Opens stained glass window. Bible is missing.) (SFX: "King of Kings and Lord of Lords") I don't understand...where is the Bible? Perhaps, I have the wrong window. It must be in this window. (opens other window)

Robespierre (appears in window)
Ah! Close the window! I'm dressing!

Lovesalot
Oh, pardon me! I didn't mean to disturb you.

Robespierre
It's quite all right. Goodbye! (closes window)

Lovesalot
It seems Rufus is busy...wait just a little minute, that didn't look like Rufus at all? Rufus is that you? (opens curtain)

Robespierre (appears in window)
Oh, um, bark, bark, bark, bark, bark.

Lovesalot
I guess it is you, Rufus. I'm sorry.

Robespierre
Don't mention it. Bye-bye! (closes window)

Lovesalot
What a lovely little man, so polite for a dragon. Wait just a little old minute! I don't think that was Rufus. (opens window) Rufus, is that you? Oh, look at that. He's gone. Some very strange things are going on in this kingdom today. I am very confused. Ah well, I guess I will just sit in this garden and enjoy the beauty of God's creation. What a shame. I surely did want to read the Bible but...c'est la vie!

Robespierre (appears on parapet)
Pardon moi, Mister fancy pants dude!
Were you looking for this? (holds Bible)

Lovesalot
Is that the Word of God?

Robespierre
It looks like a book to me. But it does have a lot of words. I'll toss it to you. Catch!

Lovesalot (catches Bible)
Thank you, kind sir. Who are you and how did you find the Bible?

Robespierre
Who me? I am Robe...Robert Duneero. I am a thief...um, local businessman. I like to come here to this garden and listen to the stories in that book. So, I thought I would try reading it myself. But, it is so full of fancy English words. I can't understand a word of it.

Lovesalot
Oh, it's really very simple to understand. Come down here and I will explain it.

Robespierre
No, I think I'm safer up here.

Lovesalot

Suit yourself. Do you know what? You remind me of Zacchaeus. He also liked high places.

Robespierre

Who is this Zucchini?

Lovesalot (opens Bible)

Zacchaeus! He's in the Bible. Let me see if I can find the chapter.

Robespierre

I am interested to learn more about this Zamboni.

Lovesalot

Zacchaeus! Zacchaeus was a wealthy tax collector but people hated him because he unfairly took other people's money.

Robespierre

I know how he feels! Some people hate me just because I steal their...I mean I earn a lot of money.

Lovesalot

They called him a sinner!

Robespierre

I have been called that, too, among other things! But doesn't that Bible book say that everyone is a sinner?

Lovesalot

It does, but they didn't all know that back then. Anyway, Zacchaeus heard that Jesus was coming to Jericho, so he climbed a tree to get a look at Him.

Robespierre

Wow, talk about going out on a limb! Why did he climb a tree?

Lovesalot

Because he was very short.

Robespierre

I also relate to that. I often feel shorter than people around me.

Lovesalot

I told you, you have a lot in common!

Robespierre

What did Jesus say to him?

Lovesalot

"Come down!"

Robespierre

Okay, I'm coming. (climbs down) I suppose can hear the story better if I am down there with you. (enters on lower level) Now, what did Jesus say?

Lovesalot

"Come down!"

Robespierre

I did come down.

Lovesalot

No, that's what Jesus said! He said, "Zacchaeus, come down! I'm going to your house today".

Robespierre

How did Jesus know his name?

Lovesalot

He's the Lord; He knows everything about everyone! And He cares about everyone.

Robespierre

I have heard this. But why would Jesus care so much about such a little fellow.

Lovesalot

God loves everyone the small and the tall.

Robespierre

So, did Jesus go to his house?

Lovesalot

Of course, He did!

Robespierre

But wasn't Jesus worried that people would see Him hanging around with a sinner!

Lovesalot (SFX: Scripture slide)

Jesus didn't mind. He loves sinners. He came to save them from their sins. That was the whole reason He came to earth. Jesus said, *"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."* Luke 19:10

Robespierre

What was lost? What did He lose?

Lovesalot

The people were lost because they didn't know where or how to find life forever with God.

Robespierre

I see! But this Jesus, He came to seek and to save the lost people?

Lovesalot

Yes, he came to bring them back to God. In fact, Zacchaeus was so changed after being with Jesus that he gave half his possessions to the poor and paid back anyone he had cheated four times the amount he had taken!

Robespierre

Sacre bleu! That's a lot of money? He's crazy that Zach and Cody!

Lovesalot

Zacchaeus.

Robespierre

Either way, I don't think anything could make me want to give away that kind of money.

Lovesalot

You would be surprised how much the Word of God can change people's hearts.

Robespierre

Are you telling me that all people have to do is hear the words in that book and they can be changed, just like Miley Cyrus?!

Lovesalot

Zacchaeus!

Robespierre

Him, too!

Lovesalot

And yes, God's Word has the power to change even the biggest sinner.

Robespierre

Oh, I don't know about that. Some of us are awfully big sinners. But thank you for sharing that story with me, Mister...?

Lovesalot

Prince Lovesalot. (they shake hands)

Robespierre

Thank you. I must be on my way. Au revoir, Prince Lovesalot. (He exits)

Lovesalot

Au revoir, Robespierre. That's right kids. I knew who he was all along and I know he's a naughty sinner. But one never can tell. After all, if God could reach a sinner like Zaccheus, maybe someday Robespierre can learn what we have learned. Say it with me, kids! **Serving the King is the noblest thing!** (VFX: Closing slide) (He exits)