



**Worship Illustration: Script
Kingdom Adventures
Kings & Kingdoms Part 1: The Life of Jesus
Unit 3, Lesson 17**

The Cross

Luke 22:54-62; 19:1-19, 30

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: Sir Praisealot is a brave knight and the Captain of the Castle Guard. He praises God all the time. His weakness is that his pride some times gets in the way. 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 that thinks he is a dog. He delivers messages from the King.

Plot: Sir Praisealot is sad when he thinks about Jesus dying on the cross. Prince Loves-a-lot tells him about when Jesus forgave Peter. We learn that Jesus never stops loving us even if we fail.

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

Props: Sword, stick horse, dragon puppet, 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. Horse galloping
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. When opened, light shines out and music plays.
3. Scripture Slide: But after that, the Bible says: "The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had told Him earlier: 'Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times.'" Luke 22:61
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 3, Lesson 17

The Cross

Luke 22:54-62; John 19:1-19, 30

Time: Approximately 6 minutes

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: horse galloping)

Sir Praise-a-lot

Tally ho, tally ho! Stay Shadow! Good boy! Hello children, it is I, Sir Praise-a-lot, praise God!

Prince Loves-a-lot

And I, Prince Loves-a-lot!

Sir Praise-a-lot

Cousin, riding Shadow into the castle grounds made me think of all that happened to Jesus the last week before He died.

Prince Loves-a-lot

It started off so well as the crowd waved palm branches and praised Jesus as He rode into Jerusalem.

Sir Praise-a-lot

But the sad thing is that later that week, when He was praying in the garden, the soldier arrested Him. They led Him away for an unfair trial and He ended up dying on the cross.

Prince Loves-a-lot

Oh but, cousin, that is not a sad story. That is the greatest love story in all of history.

Sir Praise-a-lot

Are you sure we are talking about the same story?

Prince Loves-a-lot

I am!

Rufus (enters with a palm)

Meow, meow, meow!

Prince Loves-a-lot

Rufus! Are you celebrating Palm Sunday?

Rufus

Meow, meow, meow, meow!

Sir Praise-a-lot (sadly)

You are right. It's almost Easter.

Rufus

Meow, meow, meow?

Prince Loves-a-lot

Yes, Sir Praise-a-lot is sad because He doesn't like to think about Jesus going to the cross.

Rufus

Meow, meow, meow.

Sir Praise-a-lot

You also think Easter is a happy holiday? But why?

Rufus

Meow, meow.

Sir Praise-a-lot

Sounds like? (Rufus tosses out a ring)

Prince Loves-a-lot

Sounds like ring!

Sir Praise-a-lot

Thing! Spring! Ding-a-ling!

Prince Loves-a-lot

Sing!

Rufus (loud)

Meow, meow, meow, meow!

Sir Praise-a-lot

Sorry Rufus, it's not sing? It's king!

Prince Loves-a-lot

Of course! It was on Easter Sunday the world realized Jesus was King of Kings!

Rufus (tosses crown of thorns)

Meow, meow.

Sir Praise-a-lot

What is this? A crown of thorns?

Prince Loves-a-lot

It's just like the one Jesus wore on the day He died for us. Thank you, Easter, for reminding us of how Jesus suffered to become our King.

Rufus

Meow, meow, meow! (exits)

Sir Praise-a-lot

Oh cousin, my heart is cleft in twain.

Prince Loves-a-lot

What does that mean?

Sir Praise-a-lot

I am sad, sad, sad.

Prince Loves-a-lot

Still? Don't you know King Jesus chose to give His life?

Sir Praise-a-lot

Poor Jesus, His friends turned away when He needed them most. Judas betrayed Him and even Peter denied that He knew Him!

Prince Loves-a-lot

But, Jesus knew all of that was going to happen.

Sir Praise-a-lot

He knew and He still did it? Why?

Prince Loves-a-lot

For the answer to that question we must open His Word, right now! (SFX: "King of Kings and Lord of Lords" Handel's "Messiah.") Ah, He is also the King Who Loves Us. Do you remember at the last supper, Jesus told His disciples everything that was going to happen?

Sir Praise-a-lot

Yes, Jesus said, one of you will betray me and one of you will deny me. Of course, I get it! God had told Jesus His plan.

Prince Loves-a-lot

It was God's plan of love!

Sir Praise-a-lot

I see, is that why Jesus didn't put up a fight when the soldiers arrested Him?

Prince Loves-a-lot

Yes, Jesus said, "...for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world..."

Sir Praise-a-lot

If only everyone could have known what Jesus knew, then maybe Peter would not have denied Him.

Prince Loves-a-lot

Who knows!. The important thing to remember is that Jesus still loved him anyway.

Sir Praise-a-lot

I don't see how Jesus could still love Peter after he let Him down!

Prince Loves-a-lot

Jesus doesn't love us for what we do or even what we don't do. He loves us because we are His children. (sings) "Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world..."

Sir Praise-a-lot

But the Bible says that three different times Peter was asked if He was a follower of Jesus. Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed! Imagine how bad Peter must have felt.

Prince Loves-a-lot (VFX: Scripture Slide)

But after that, the Bible says: "The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had told Him earlier: 'Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times.'" Luke 22:61

Sir Praise-a-lot

That's what I mean; when Jesus looked at him, Peter must have felt just terrible.

Prince Loves-a-lot

Or maybe Jesus looked at Peter with love. Maybe His look said, "It's all right, Peter. You're my friend and I love you no matter what."

Sir Praise-a-lot

I never realized that a look could say all that.

Prince Loves-a-lot

It can if it comes from Jesus!

Sir Praise-a-lot

You have helped me to see that Jesus never stops loving us even when we fail. What was that thing you taught us?

Both (with motions) **He knew, He obeyed, He loved, He saved.** (Motions: "HE KNEW" Point to head. "HE OBEYED" Bow. "HE LOVED" Touch heart. "HE SAVED" Spread arms to make a cross.)

Sir Praise-a-lot

Let's all do it! Stand up and repeat it with us.

All

He knew, He obeyed, He loved, He saved.

Prince Loves-a-lot

Do you think that's why Jesus said, "It is finished" when He was on the cross?

Sir Praise-a-lot

Yes! By giving His life, Jesus finished God's plan to save the world.

Prince Loves-a-lot

He is truly the King who loves us. No wonder we love serving Him.

Sir Praise-a-lot

You kids know why we serve the King, don't you?! Say it with us!

Both

Serving the King is the noblest thing! (VFX: Closing Slide!) (SFX: Outro music)

Sir Praise-a-lot

Fare thee well!

Prince Loves-a-lot

Jesus loves you! (both exit)