



**Worship Illustration: Script**  
**Critter Kingdom**  
**Kings & Kingdoms Part 1: The Parables of Jesus**  
**Unit 5, Lesson 27**

# **The Great Banquet**

**Luke 14:15-24**

**Running time:** Approximately 6 minutes

**Setting:** This series (Units 5 & 6) is set in a barn area of an outdoor camp. The set is designed to look like the interior of a barn, which is the set for Ranger Reggie's talk show, Critter Kingdom. There's a door to enter, a fireplace with stuffed animal heads over the mantle, and a ramp (or steps) to invite children up to participate in object lessons. Orville (a bird on a zip line) slides down and lands in a box containing a plastic egg. The Bible is kept in a crate that lights up; music plays when opened. There are different openings, trapdoors and windows from which the animal of the day can fall and characters and puppets can pop up.

**Characters:** Ranger Reggie is Camp Venture's Head Bible Counselor and host of the weekly talk show "Critter Kingdom". He is a former explorer and animal expert. (For added humor, he pronounces all "R"s and "L"s as a "W.") Orville is a klutzy carrier pigeon (silent toy bird attached to a zip line) that delivers messages. Fluffy is a confused and somewhat upset sheep whose role can be performed live or on video.

**Plot:** Ranger Reggie and Safari Sam invite Norbet the turkey to a feast but he turns them down. They read the parable of the Great Banquet. We learn that Jesus invites all of us to feast with Him in heaven forever!

**Costumes:** Ranger Reggie: Pith helmet, camouflage shorts, camp shirt, vest, mustache, and eyeglasses. Safari Sam: Tan shirt, khaki shorts, explorer's helmet, and boots.

**Props:** Toy bird on a zip line, plastic egg with note inside, laptop computer, Bible.

Note: Each episode introduces a different creature. These may be ten separate puppets, stuffed animals, or one basic sock puppet to represent the 10 following creatures: Falcon (Lesson 23), Earthworm (Lesson 24), Bear (Lesson 25), Ant (Lesson 26), Turkey (Lesson 27), Seagull (Lesson 28), Ostrich (Lesson 29), Pigeon (Lesson 30), Piglet (Lesson 31), Donkey (Lesson 32).

**Sound effects (SFX):**

1. Intro/Outro music suggestions: "I Like to Move It, Move It" from Madagascar
2. Lion Roar
3. Bible Crate: "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" or other jungle song clip. Music plays when crate is opened during each episode to reveal the Bible
4. Norbert voiceovers
5. Turkey gobble

**Visual effects (VFX):**

1. Video Intro featuring Ranger Reggie is available at ResourceWell.org
2. "Critter Kingdom" slide
3. A crate holds the Bible. When opened, light shines out and music plays.
4. Scripture Slide: **"When one of those at the table with Him heard this, he said to Jesus, 'Blessed is the man who will eat at the feast in the Kingdom of God.'" Luke 14:15**
5. Camper's Code slide:

**I will love God with all my heart.**  
**I will love my neighbor as myself.**  
**I will be a light wherever I go!**

### **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

**Critter Kingdom**  
**Unit 5, Lesson 27**  
**The Great Banquet**  
**Luke 14:15-24**

**Voiceover** (VFX: Short video intro)

**You are about to join us on an adventure. My name is Ranger Reggie, intrepid explorer, former Marine, Bible-lover, and friend to animals everywhere. I've traveled the four corners of the globe, climbed mountains, forged rivers, and faced countless dangers to bring you the world's most interesting creatures...this is Critter Kingdom!** (SFX: "I Like to Move It, Move It")

**Reggie**

**Hello! Hello, boys and Girls! Welcome back to Critter Kingdom!** (SFX: Lion's roar) **Why don't we start things off by reciting our Camper's Code? Let's all stand, raise our right hand and recite our Camper's Code together!**

**All**

**I will love God with all my heart,  
I will love my neighbor as myself,  
I will be a light wherever I go!**

(VFX: I will love God with all my heart, I will love my neighbor as myself, I will be a light wherever I go!)

**Reggie**

**Today's going to be extra special because today is banquet day! Orville already told me that today's story is the parable of the Great Banquet! A banquet is like a feast or a celebration with lots of delicious food. Orville has invited a secret Creature Feature guest to come to our banquet. Who can it be? Let's all say, "Hey Orville, come on down!" Ready? "Hey Orville, come on down!"** (Orville slides down and

crashes through window; egg drops down into fireplace. Reggie unfolds note inside egg.) **Are you ready for today's Creature Feature?** (SFX: "I Like to Move It, Move It") **Today's Creature Feature is The Turkey! Safari Sam, come on out and bring that turkey!**

**Sam** (peeking out)

**Um...Ranger Reggie, we've got a small problem.**

**Reggie**

**We do. What's wrong?**

**Sam** (enters with laptop computer)

**Norbert, the turkey, won't come! Orville sent him an invitation and he e-mailed back that he's not coming.**

**Reggie**

**That turkey knows how to use e-mail?**

**Sam**

**He just pecks at the keyboard.**

**Reggie**

**Well, get Norbert on the i-chat.**

**Sam**

**Sure thing. Dear Norbert, won't you come to our Critter Kingdom feast?** (SFX: Computer booting, VFX: I-chat screen)

(SFX: Gobble, Norbert: No!)

**Sam**

**No? Why not?**

(SFX: Gobble, Norbert: Every time I get invited to a feast, the main course is me!)

**Reggie**

**Tell him it's not that kind of feast.**

**Sam**

**This is different. We promise, you'll be the guest of honor.**

(SFX: Gobble, Norbert: That's what the Pilgrims said. No way, don't trust people. Not coming.)

**Sam**

He refused our invitation!

**Reggie**

Too bad, I was going to serve corn and delicious birdseed. He's going to miss a great blessing. Hey, this reminds me of our parable. Let me get the Bible right now.

(SFX: "The Lion Sleeps Tonight", VFX: Bible crate opens and light shines out.) **Safari Sam**, would you start us off?

**Sam**

Certainly, the Bible says: "A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.'"

**Reggie**

Now don't you think that everyone in town would want to come to a great banquet like that?

**Sam**

Certainly!

**Reggie**

You'd think that, but...they all made excuses why they couldn't come.

**Sam**

So what did the master do? Did he cancel the banquet?

**Reggie**

Certainly not! He told his servants to go out into the streets and alleys and bring in the poor, the disabled, the blind and the lame!

**Sam**

The lame?

**Reggie**

People who can't walk.

**Sam**

And then did they start the banquet?

**Reggie**

Nope, there was still room for more people so, the master told them to go out into the roads and the country lanes and make the people come so his house would be full!

**Sam**

Wow! That must have been the greatest banquet ever! Too bad those first guys turned down the invitation.

**Reggie**

They missed out on a great blessing, just like Norbert the turkey. Safari Sam, do you know what the banquet represents?

**Sam**

Um...a birthday party at Chuck E. Cheese?!

**Reggie**

Nope! The banquet represents heaven!

**Sam**

Oh yes! And Father God is like the master!

**Reggie**

That's right! And He sent Jesus as the servant to invite everyone to come join the feast with God in heaven!

**Sam**

Only a fool would turn down an invitation to be with God forever!

**Reggie** (VFX: Scripture Slide)

It's the best invitation ever! The Bible says: "When one of those at the table with Him heard this, he said to Jesus, 'Blessed is the man who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God.'"

**Sam**

That would be a blessing! How can we get an invitation like that?

**Reggie**

We already have one. Jesus invites all of us to ask Him into our hearts and spend forever in Heaven with Him. All we have to do is say, "Yes!"

**Sam**

**That's why our Camper's Code says, "I will love God with all my heart!"**

**Reggie**

**Amen!**

**Sam**

**Poor Norbert, he passed up a great invitation.**

**Reggie**

**Cheer up, Safari Sam! Maybe one day Norbert will change his mind.**

**Sam**

**That's true! You never know how his heart might grow.**

**Reggie**

**(VFX: Critter Kingdom slide, SFX: Outro music)**

**Well, Camp Rangers, looks like we're out of time for today's Critter Kingdom. I'd like to thank my co-host, Safari Sam and Norbert, the Turkey. See you next time, Rangers!**