



Worship Illustration: Script
Commander Cosmos
Prophets & Promises 1: Acts - Revelation
Unit 1, Lesson 5

Phillip and the Ethiopian

Acts 8:26-31; 34-35

Running time: Approximately 6 minutes

Set: The set for Units 1-4 is designed to look like the interior of the spaceship Skylab Omega. There are colored Plexiglas panels with lights behind them, computer parts, knobs, buttons, and a built-in view screen. The Command Center is on B-deck (upper level or stage right). A-deck (lower level or stage left) has a sliding entrance upstage center and a teleport. There is a tube where messages and the Bible can be received. The Virtual Bible is a screen or monitor displaying the Bible verses in the script. For extra fun, build windows where characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

Characters: Lieutenant Ruby Starlight is the first mate. She is young and bubbly and always ready to learn. Ambassador Nofutu is the quirky, child-like representative from Planet Jerusalem. He is very silly, high energy and full of curiosity. For fun add an unusual accent. Admiral Angel appears on video or as a voiceover.

Plot: Ambassador Nofutu comes aboard Skylab Omega and wants to know about our king. Ruby tells him the story of Philip and the Ethiopian. We learn the Holy Spirit will give us the words to share the "Good News" with those we meet.

Costumes: Ruby wears a space suit and boots. Nofutu wears a crazy patterned shirt, shiny tunic, silk pantaloons, silly hat, and clogs.

Props: Clipboard, Bible, remote control

Sound effects (SFX):

1. Intro/outro music suggestion: Space-themed songs
2. Computer Voiceover: "Incoming Message from Planet Earth"
3. Teleport sounds
4. Fanfare
5. Sirens and rumbling sounds
6. Plexiglas window suggestion: Handel's Messiah "Hallelujah Chorus." Music plays when window is opened to reveal Bible.
7. Computer keyboard typing sounds. (For more humorous elements, add SFX such as a cowbell, foghorn, etc.)
8. Virtual Bible theme suggestion: "Close Encounters" Theme

Visual effects: (VFX)

1. Video Intro featuring space ships and rockets is available at ResourceWell.org
2. Video of Admiral Angel is available at ResourceWell.org
3. Teleport strobes and fog
4. Sliding Plexiglas window holds the Bible. When opened, light shines out and music plays.
5. Scripture Slide (on Virtual Bible): ***...then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. Acts 8:35***
5. Closing Slide: "Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever!"
6. Fall back slide: Traveling rocket ship

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

Commander Cosmos
Unit 1, Lesson 5
Phillip and the Ethiopian
Acts 8:24-31; 34-35

Voiceover (VFX: short video intro)

Scripture ... the finest frontier. These are the voyages of Skylab Omega. Its five month mission to spread the Gospel to the galaxy, to share God's love with civilization, to boldly go where one Savior has gone before! Come with us now as we blast through the Bible with Commander Cosmos: Space Ranger!

Ruby (enters and salutes)

Hi kids. Officer Ruby Starlight reporting for duty! Today is a very important day. Today we make our first contact with the international Space Station on Planet Jerusalem!

Computer V.O.

**Incoming message from planet Earth.
Incoming message from planet Earth.**

Admiral Angel

Greetings, Skylab Omega.

Ruby

Admiral Angel! We weren't expecting to hear from you.

Admiral Angel

This is an historic day. I have arranged a visit with Ambassador Nofutu from Planet Jerusalem. Where is Commander Cosmos?

Ruby

He hurt his leg and today is the day that he is having laser surgery.

Admiral Angel

Well then, it is up to you. It's very important that you make the ambassador feel welcome upon arrival, which should be in about 5 seconds. Over and out!

Ruby

Wait! I haven't time to study the customs of his people! Oh no, he's gone...

Computer V.O.

Ambassador arriving in 5-4-3-2-1.

(SFX: Teleport sounds and fanfare, VFX: Strobes and fog)

Nofutu

Hallo, hallo! Happy Christmas! Merry Easter to you.

Ruby

Um...hello.

Nofutu

You must be the Commander Cosmos!

Ruby

No, I am the Ruby Starlight.

Nofutu (gives a silly hand shake)

**Then I salute you and bring you salutations!
Boogah, boogah, boogah! Konga-loosh!**

Ruby

Yes, Konga-loosh and a big skidoosh to you!

Nofutu

I like you! I will call you my friend! I will put you in my pocket and feed you gummi-bears all day long.

Ruby

Oh, I don't think I'll fit in there.

Nofutu (grabs remote control)

What does this do? (Pushes buttons. SFX: Sirens and rumbling sounds. VFX: Flash)

Ruby (gently takes remote)

**Woah! You don't want to play with that!
That's the ship's controller!**

Nofutu

Hey, don't judge a book by its cover! (climbing ladder or staircase) **Where does this go?**

Ruby (stopping him)

Ambassador! That leads to the Command Center. It's not safe to touch things up there.

Nofutu

Well, a penny saved is a penny earned!

Ruby
I don't know what you mean!

Nofutu
Hey, what is this?! (Opens window, SFX:
"Hallelujah Chorus," VFX: Beam of light shines from
box) **It's a music box!**

Ruby
It's the Bible.

Nofutu
It's a music Bible!

Ruby
Actually, it's God's Word.

Nofutu
This is God's Word?!

Ruby
Yes.

Nofutu
Outstanding! Who is God?

Ruby
God is the King that we worship!

Nofutu
**I want to know about this King! Here, read
me His book!** (sits on floor)

Ruby
**Well, I can't read you the whole thing but I
can explain what it means. Wait a second.
What does this remind me of?**

Nofutu
The good 'ole days?

Ruby
**No, this reminds me of Phillip and the
Ethiopian!**

Nofutu
Who is Phillip?

Ruby
He was a follower of Jesus.

Nofutu
Excellent! Who is Jesus?

Ruby
**You don't know Jesus? Jesus is the Son of
God!**

Nofutu
Is Jesus in this book?

Ruby
Oh, yes!

Nofutu (shakes Bible)
**Jesus! Come out, come out wherever you are!
I want to meet you!**

Ruby
**No, no, you don't meet Jesus that way. He
lives in our hearts. We know Him through the
Holy Spirit. You don't know who the Holy
Spirit is, do you?**

Nofutu
**How can I know unless someone explains it
to me!**

Ruby
That's just what the Ethiopian said!

Nofutu
Hooray! I am an Ethiopian!

Ruby
**No, you're not an Ethiopian but I feel an
awful lot like Phillip!**

Nofutu
Well you sure don't look like him!

Ruby
**The Ethiopian was sitting by the side of the
road reading the Bible but he didn't
understand what it meant!**

Nofutu
**What a coincidence! I don't understand
anything! What do we do now, Ruby
Tuesdays?**

Ruby

I should check the Virtual Bible and do just what Phillip did! (SFX: Virtual Bible theme)

Nofutu

Yes! Bring on the Vertical Bible.

Ruby (VFX: Scripture Slide)

The Virtual Bible says, *...then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.*

That's it! God wants me to share the good news just like Phillip did!

Nofutu

There is Good News?

Ruby

Oh yes, the best news ever!

Nofutu

What is this good news, my gummi-bear eating friend?

Ruby

God loved the world so much that He sent His Son Jesus to be our Savior.

Nofutu

Hooray! Jesus is the best savior ever in the whole universe...what is a savior?

Ruby

As our Savior, Jesus took away our sins!

Nofutu

Hooray! Thank you, Jesus! What is sin?

Ruby

Sin is when we do wrong in God's eyes.

Nofutu

We don't want to do that! Take those sins away, Jesus!

Ruby

He will do that! And so much more through the power of the Holy Spirit! Oh, Ambassador Nofutu, I have so many wonderful things to teach you about Jesus. He will change your whole life!

Nofutu

Yes! Jesus changes!

Ruby

Oh no! He changes us, but Jesus never changes. What does the Bible says, kids?

(VFX: Closing Slide) "Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever!"

Nofutu

I like this. Jesus is the same next week, last Tuesday and two days from now!

Ruby

That's close. You know what? Let's go down to the Media Center and I'll tell you everything I know about Jesus. So long, kids! (SFX: Outro music, VFX: Fallback slide)

Nofutu

Goodbye, kids! To the Media Sensor! What's a Media Sensor?

(Exit)