



## Worship Illustration: Script Mail Call

### Prophets & Promises Part 1: Acts—Revelation Unit 5, Lesson 22

# Letters About Love

1 Corinthians 13:1-7; 1 John 4:11-12

**Running time:** Approximately 6 minutes

**Setting:** This series (Units 5-6) is set in the Mail Center at Camp Venture. The set is designed to look like the interior of a rustic cabin where campers and counselors retrieve and often read their mail. There is a door and a fireplace with stuffed animal heads over the mantle. There is a mailbag or box that sits on a high shelf; it can have a trap door or simply tip over to dump a pile of letters and a Bible into the counselor's hands. There is a bird's nest on a ceiling beam with a zip line leading down to the mail counter. There are openings, trapdoors, and windows from which the animal of the day can fall. For extra fun, build windows where the characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

**Characters:** Ranger Reggie is the Head Bible Counselor at Camp Venture. He is a former explorer and animal expert. (For added humor, he pronounces his "Rs" and "Ls" as "Ws".) Safari Sam is a survivalist and lover of nature. He is very excitable and speaks with a lisp. Wild William recites the Camp Critter Clue either via video, puppet, or from an offstage microphone. (Optional: The Camp Critter Clue can be found on a slip of paper or appear on a slide and be read by a volunteer or any character.) Orville is a klutzy carrier pigeon (silent toy bird attached to a zip line) that delivers messages which are inside plastic eggs.

**Plot:** Safari Sam brings a letter from Paul to the Corinthians. Ranger Reggie reads about God's love in the Bible. Then Orville brings a letter from John. We learn that love is the most important thing and that God created us to love Him and one another.

**Costumes:** Safari hats, shorts, boots, vests, camp t-shirts

**Props:** Clipboard, Bible, letters, large plastic egg, 2 toy lovebirds

Note: Each episode introduces a different creature. These may be ten separate puppets, toy animals, or one basic sock puppet to represent the 10 following creatures: Love Birds (Lesson 22), Meerkat (Lesson 23), Serpent (Lesson 24), Little Lamb (Lesson 25), Dove (Lesson 26), Race Horse (Lesson 27), Kitten (Lesson 28), Gorilla (Lesson 29), Elephant (Lesson 30), Lion (Lesson 31)

#### **Sound effects (SFX):**

1. Intro/outro music suggestion: Banjo music
2. Bugle call: Reveille
3. Creature Feature music suggestion: "I Like to Move It, Move It" from Madagascar
4. Mailbag Song suggestion: "Mail Time" from Blues Clues music plays when bag is opened each episode to reveal the Bible
5. Bird squawk sound

#### **Visual effects (VFX):**

1. Video Intro featuring Ranger Reggie is available at ResourceWell.org
2. Creature Feature slide: **Creature Feature**
3. Wild William's Camp Critter Clue video
4. Camp Critter Clue slide:

**Wings of love for all to see—  
a symbol of perfect unity.**

5. Scripture Slide (on Virtual Bible): ***Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made complete in us. 1 John 4:11-12***

6. 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

**Mail Call**

**Unit 5, Lesson 22  
Letters About Love**

**1 Corinthians 13:1-7; 1 John 4:11-12**

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

**Hello, my name is Ranger Reggie. For years, I explored the four corners of the globe, climbed mountains, forged rivers, and faced countless dangers to bring you the interesting creatures on God's green earth. Now, my friends and I use our knowledge of animals and our love of the Bible to bring God's Word to life. Join me, Ranger Reggie, and my friends, here every week for Mail Call where we open our special deliveries!**

**Reggie**

**Hello! Hello, boys and girls! Welcome to Mail Call! (SFX: Bugle call) I'm the Head Bible Counselor here at Camp Venture. My name is Ranger Reggie. Can you say that with me? (Children say, "Ranger Reggie.") Excellent!**

**Sam** (runs in)

**Ranger Reggie! Ranger Reggie! The flag is up. That means we've got mail!**

**Reggie**

**That's great! Everybody, this is my assistant counselor, Safari Sam. Say hello, Sam.**

**Sam**

**Hello, Sam! I mean, hello kids! (Children respond.)**

**Reggie**

**I just love to get mail from home! Let's open up the mailbag and see what God has sent us! (Opens the mail bag. SFX: Mailbag Song plays when the mailbag is opened, VFX: Scripture slide) Ah, here's my Bible! The Bible is just full of love letters from God! Would you like to read today's letter, Safari Sam?**

**Sam**

**Sure! Here's a great letter from the Bible! This is the first letter the Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians. *Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.***

**Reggie**

**Why, this is a letter about love!**

**Sam**

**Wow, it sounds like love is really important to God!**

**Reggie**

**Love is the most important thing in the world! It's the reason God created us, so He could love us and we could show love to Him and to each other!**

**Sam**

**That gives me a good idea of what today's Creature Feature might be.**

**Reggie**

**Thanks for reminding me, Sam! Kids, every week here at Camp Venture, we introduce you to a new and interesting critter. We call it our Creature Feature! (SFX: Creature Feature music, VFX: Creature Feature slide) Let's ask our friend, Wild William, to come out and give us our Camp Critter Clue so we can find out who is today's featured creature!**

**Sam**

**Wild William! Which critter will be today's featured creature?**

**Wild William** (VFX: Video, puppet, or actor)

**Wings of love for all to see—  
a symbol of perfect unity.**

**Sam** (VFX: Camp Critter Clue slide)

**Wings of love for all to see—  
a symbol of perfect unity.  
What does that mean?**

**Reggie**

**I know! I know! It's a love bird!** (Two lovebirds drop on his head.) (SFX: Squawk)  
**Ah! They're on my head! Get 'em off!  
Get 'em off!**

**Sam**

**I've got them! I've got them! Aren't they beautiful?**

**Reggie**

**Oh yeah, beautiful like a rattlesnake!**

**Sam**

**But, lovebirds are a beautiful symbol of love and unity.**

**Reggie**

**That's true. They are always found in pairs and once they find their true love, they stay together for the rest of their lives.**

**Sam**

**That's because they need each other.**

**Reggie**

**They need each other! Of course! That's it!**

**Sam**

**That's what?**

**Reggie**

**That's the other thing lovebirds remind me of, the fact that God made us to love each other!**

**Sam**

**That's true, the Bible says, *Love comes from God!***

**Reggie**

**Do you know what, Safari Sam? Just this morning my friend Orville was showing me a letter that said the same thing.**

**Sam**

**Well, let's call him. Kids, Orville lives way up there in the rafters of the Mail Center, but if we all shout together we can get him to bring us that letter!**

**Reggie**

**Let's all call him by shouting, "Hey Orville, come on down!" Ready?**

**Reggie, Sam, Counselors, and Children**

**Hey Orville, come on down!** (Orville slides down zip line to crash behind mail counter.)

**Reggie** (picks up egg from behind counter)

**Orville laid an egg. Let's see what's inside.** (opens egg and takes out letter) **It's the letter Orville was showing me from the Apostle John.** (VFX: Scripture slide) ***Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.***

**Sam**

**I get it, Ranger Reggie! Through these letters, God is showing us that love comes from God.**

**Reggie**

**That's right. And God's love is the truest form of love!**

**Sam**

**I thought all love was true love.**

**Reggie**

**Oh no, sometimes people use the word love in silly ways. They say things like "I love hot dogs" or "I love soccer" or "I love sparkle lip gloss!"**

**Sam**

**We all love sparkle lip gloss! But what's the difference between loving things and God's kind of love?**

**Reggie**

**The love that comes from God lasts forever and it changes lives in powerful ways.**

**Sam**

**Hey—that's the kind of love that our Camper's Code is all about.**

**Ranger Reggie**

**That's right, Safari Sam!**

**Sam**

**Every good camper has to know the Camper's Code so stand to your feet, kids, and we'll teach it to you!**

**Reggie**

**We'll make you official Camp Venture Campers! Raise your right hand and recite our Camper's Code after me!**

**All (VFX: 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!**

**Sam**

**Well, campers, looks like that's it for today's special deliveries.**

**Reggie (SFX: Intro/outro music)**

**So long, kids! We've got to go get these lovebirds in their cage!**

**Sam**

**See you next time!**

**(exit)**