



**Worship Illustration: Script  
Mail Call**  
**Prophets & Promises Part 1: Acts - Revelation**  
**Unit 5, Lesson 25**

# Letters About Forgiving Others

**Colossians 3:12-13; 1 Corinthians 13:5**

**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 to enter, 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 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 that the animal of the day can fall out of. 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 all "R"s and "L"s as a "W".) Safari Sam is a survivalist and lover of nature. He is very excitable and speaks with a lisp. Wild William recites Camp Critter Clue either via video, puppet or from an offstage mic. (Option: the Camp Critter Clue can be found on a slip of paper or appear on a slide and read by volunteer or any character.) Orville is a klutzy carrier pigeon (silent toy bird attached to a zip line) that delivers messages 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 love is the most important thing and 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. Bleating 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:

**It's more than just their wooly coats  
that separate them from the goats.**

5. Scripture Slide (on Virtual Bible): ***It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Philippians 4:6-7***

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 25**

**Letters About Forgiving Others  
Colossians 3:12-13; 1 Corinthians 13:5**

**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 friends, here every week, for Mail Call where we open our Special Deliveries!**

**Reggie** (enters)

**Hello, Campers! Ranger Reggie here!  
Welcome back to Mail Time!** (SFX: Bugle call)

**Sam** (enters obviously upset)

**Hi, Ranger Reggie.**

**Reggie**

**Hello, Safari Sam! You look upset. Are you okay?**

**Sam**

**No.**

**Reggie**

**Did you apologize to Ranger Drosslemeyer?**

**Sam**

**Yes, but I didn't want to.**

**Reggie**

**Why not? You did do some mean things to him.**

**Sam**

**I know, but do you know what he said to me? He said, "I forgive you."**

**Reggie**

**So...isn't that a good thing?**

**Sam**

**I guess but...I hate the fact that I had to say I was sorry to Ranger Drosslemeyer! He never said he was sorry to me!**

**Reggie**

**But, he didn't do anything to you.**

**Sam**

**Yes he did! He...he makes me feel bad.**

**Reggie**

**That's how you choose to feel, but I'm pretty sure he's never done anything against you on purpose.**

**Sam**

**Well, I still don't forgive him!**

**Reggie**

**Well, I don't think God wants us to be separated from our brothers in the Lord. There's one way to find out...Mail Time!** (Opens the mailbag, SFX: Mailbag Song plays when the mailbag is opened, VFX: Scripture slide) **Here it is! See what it says, Safari Sam.**

**Sam**

***Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.***

**Reggie**

**What do you think about that, Safari Sam?**

**Sam**

I think whoever wrote that letter didn't know Ranger Drosslemeyer.

**Reggie**

But, I think he knew your heart and he knew you need to forgive.

**Sam**

I need to forgive? Why do I need to do anything?

**Reggie**

Because God wants you to forgive just as He has forgiven you.

**Sam**

Yeah...but...well...forgiving is hard!

**Reggie**

You're right. Forgiving is hard. But, it needs to be the first thing we do. When we hold things against people and continue to bring up the things they have done that hurt us, it becomes harder for us to be close to the Lord.

**Sam**

I don't understand. Why?

**Reggie**

Because when we hold a grudge, we are not acting like Jesus. When Jesus forgave your sins, did He continue to hold those sins against you?

**Sam**

No.

**Reggie**

And, does Jesus bring those things up to you again and again?

**Sam**

No, I guess not. I understand now, but what if he doesn't say he's sorry.

**Reggie**

Forgive him anyway.

**Sam**

But, what if he does it again?

**Reggie**

Forgive him anyway.

**Sam**

But, what if he really hurts my feelings?

**Reggie**

Ask God to help you forgive him and then forgive him anyway. After all, does Jesus put conditions on our forgiveness?

**Sam**

No. Jesus forgives unconditionally—no matter what! I guess he wants me to do the same.

**Reggie**

Amen. I wonder if our animal of the day is forgiving.

**Sam**

Let's find out! It's time to find our **Creature Feature!** (SFX: Creature Feature music, VFX: Creature Feature slide) **Wild William! Who is today's featured creature?**

**Wild William** (VFX: Wild William video, actor, or puppet) **It's more than just their wooly coats that separate them from the goats.**

**Reggie** (moves to a different place on the stage) **The past two weeks I have been attacked by the featured creature, so you stand over there. I'm going to stand somewhere safe!**

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

**It's more than just their wooly coats that separate them from the goats. Hmm...**

**Reggie**

**I've got it! It's a lamb!** (Lamb drops onto his head, SFX: bleating) **Ahhh! Not again! Get him off! Get him off!**

**Sam**

**I've got him! I've got him!** (pets the lamb and gently places it offstage) **Awww, what a sweet little lamb.**

**Reggie**

**More like a wretched little lamb!**

**Sam**

**No, Ranger Reggie...little lambs are pure and innocent.**

**Reggie**

**Well, I don't know about that critter, but Jesus was pure and innocent.**

**Sam**

**You mean because He never sinned?**

**Reggie**

**That's exactly right! God not only forgives us our sins, He forgets about them!**

**Sam**

**You're right! He sees us as if we are as innocent as little lambs. I think Orville has a letter that explains it best! Campers, let's all shout, "Hey Orville, come on down!" Ready?**

**Reggie, Sam, Campers, and Counselors**

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

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

**Orville laid an egg with a letter inside!**

(opens egg, takes out letter) **It's from Paul's letter to the Corinthians. I remember this letter, it talks about love and it says: *It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.***

**Reggie**

**He died to save us all and all of us who give our hearts to Him have our sins forgiven forever!**

**Sam**

**So, that's why Ranger Drosselmeyer said I was already forgiven! He knew what these campers know—only Jesus can forgive our sins!**

**Reggie**

**That's the very reason we make our pledge to serve Him! Let's say our Camp Venture Camper's Code together.**

**Sam**

**Stand to your feet, everyone!**

**Reggie**

**Raise your right hand and recite our Camper's Code with 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**

**I think I'm going to go have another talk with Drosselmeyer.**

(SFX: Intro/outro music)

**Reggie**

**I'll join you! So long, kids!** (they exit)