



## Worship Illustration: Script Mail Call

### Prophets & Promises Part 1: Acts - Revelation Unit 6, Lesson 29

# Letters About Strength

Ephesians 6:10-18; 1 Peter 5:8-10

**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:** Ranger Reggie and Sam discuss Paul's letter about the armor of God. They demonstrate by dressing a volunteer in armor. We learn our strength is found in Jesus.

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

**Props:** Clipboard, Bible, letters, large plastic egg, toy gorilla

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. Gorilla 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:  
**So much stronger than the rest,  
he beats his fists upon his chest.**
5. Scripture Slide (on Virtual Bible): ***And the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. 1 Peter 5:10***
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 6, Lesson 29**  
**Letters About Strength**  
**Ephesians 6:10-18; 1 Peter 5:8-10**

### **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!**

### **Ranger Reggie** (enters)

**Hello, campers! It's so good to see you! Welcome back to Mail Call!** (SFX: Bugle call)

### **Sam** (runs in)

**Ranger Reggie, Ranger Reggie! You're standing on your own two feet! Are you healed?**

### **Reggie**

**Hi, Safari Sam. I feel stronger!**

### **Sam**

**You sure look stronger. I'll bet you're strong enough to catch that whole box of mail!**

### **Reggie**

**We're about to find out, because it's Mail Time!** (Opens the mail bag. SFX: Mailbag Song plays when the mailbag is opened, VFX: Scripture slide) **It's Paul's letter to the Ephesian church! Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.**

### **Sam**

**The full armor of God? What is the full armor of God?**

### **Reggie**

**Why don't I show you? Now . . . we are going to need some help for this one. Do I have a volunteer who wants to help me?** (choose volunteer) **All right, come on up. Now, you stand next to me. Safari Sam you go over to that trunk and take out what I tell you.**

### **Sam**

**Wow, this is full of cool stuff!**

### **Reggie**

**Just take out what I read in the Bible! Now, the Word of God tells us to put on the full armor of God. Listen to what it tells us. *Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place . . .***

### **Sam** (picks up breastplate and belt)

**This must be the breastplate and this belt holds it in place!** (puts both on volunteer)  
**Now hold still while I get you suited up.**

### **Reggie**

**You look great! The breastplate of righteousness protects our heart.**

### **Sam**

**Aha! So, doing what is right in God's eyes protects our heart from wanting what is wrong.**

### **Reggie**

**. . . and your heart can be filled with His righteousness!**

### **Sam**

**What about the belt?**

### **Reggie**

**The belt represents God's truth! Wrapping ourselves in God's truth keeps us close to Jesus!**

**Sam**

**I like that! What's next?**

**Reggie**

**The Bible says to have "*your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.*"**

**Sam** (holds up shoes labeled "Good news")

**Look! Gospel shoes! (to volunteer) Here you go, slip these on!**

**Reggie**

**Perfect! Now you will be showing others God's "Good News" with every step you take!**

**Sam**

**This sure is swell! What now?**

**Reggie**

**. . . take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.**

**Sam**

**That makes perfect sense. The faith God gives us protects us from Satan's lies!**

**Reggie** (to volunteer)

**Are you ready for more?**

**Sam** (runs to trunk)

**I'm on it!**

**Reggie**

**Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.**

**Sam**

**Here's your helmet and your sword. Ranger Reggie, why does the helmet stand for salvation?**

**Reggie**

**Well Sam, sometimes Satan tries to make us doubt in our minds that God truly loves us enough to save us.**

**Sam**

**Ooh, that Satan is so slippery!**

**Reggie**

**The helmet protects our mind. No matter what lies we hear, we always know in our minds that God is with us!**

**Sam**

**Then we can use the sword to chase Satan away?**

**Reggie**

**Precisely. There's no better weapon than the Word of God!**

**Sam**

**Because Satan tries to fool us with lies . . .**

**Reggie**

**But, we know every word of the Bible is true. Satan cannot stand against the truth of God's Word.**

**Sam**

**He has to run for the hills! (to volunteer) Well, you look like a real godly warrior!**

**Reggie**

**Let's review! (removes belt) You have the truth wrapped around you!**

**Sam** (removes breastplate)

**And God's righteousness protects your heart!**

**Reggie** (removes shoes)

**You show others about Jesus with every step you take!**

**Sam** (Puts down the shield)

**No attack can get past the faith God gives you!**

**Reggie** (Removes helmet)

**You know in your mind you are saved by God!**

**Sam** (Puts down the sword)

**And God's Word can chase away all lies and sin!**

**Reggie**

**Let's hear it for our fearless warrior!**  
(applause) **You may have a seat. Now kids, you all have that same armor and those same weapons available to you.**

**Sam**

**You may not have a trunk full of goodies like these, but we can all put on God's spiritual armor by praying and reading His Word!**

**Reggie**

**It's time to find out which animal is super strong! It's Creature Feature time!** (SFX: Creature Feature music, VFX: Creature Feature slide) **Wild William, give us a clue!**

**Wild William** (VFX: Wild William video, actor, or puppet) **"So much stronger than the rest, He beats his fists upon his chest."** (VFX: Camp Critter Clue slide)

**Sam**

**It's gotta' be a gorilla!**

**Reggie**

**What do you think it is, kids?** (Children respond.) **Is it a gorilla?** (VFX: Gorilla sound) **You guessed it!**

**Sam**

**Oh, I get it. Gorillas are super strong!**

**Reggie**

**That's right. Let's see what the Bible says about getting strong.**

**Sam**

**I'd love to read that! Hey kids, let's call Orville? Are you ready?**

**Children and Counselors**

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

**Sam** (picks up egg from behind counter) **Here's the egg with the letter in it!**

**Reggie**

**Open it and read it to us!**

**Sam** (opens egg)

***And the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.***

**Reggie**

**Of course! It's Jesus that makes us strong! Just like the apostles, we can always count on Him to restore our strength!**

**Sam**

**Amen! Ranger Reggie, may I lead the Camper's Code?**

**Reggie**

**That's a great idea!**

**Sam**

**On your feet, campers! Raise your right hand and recite this 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!**

**Reggie**

**I'm feeling stronger already! See you next time campers!**

(SFX: Intro/outro music)

**Sam**

**Yes! See you soon!**

(exit)