



Worship Illustration: Script
The Love Sub
Prophets & Promises Part 2: Elijah-Malachi
Unit 7, Lesson 37

Amos and the Plumb Line

Amos 4:12b-13, 5:14, 7:7-8

Running time: Approximately 6 minutes

Setting: The setting for The Love Sub scripts (Lessons 35-52) will be set onboard a kaleidoscopic submarine in the late 1960's. The set is designed to look like the interior of an old submarine that also serves as a time travel vehicle. There is a sliding board (the Time Tube) used for the entrance of visitors from the past and a ramp (or steps) to invite children up to participate in object lessons. There are two working portholes; one squirts water and the other contains the Bible. Everything is painted in vibrant colors and has 1960's decor. For extra fun, build windows where the characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

Characters: Woodstock P. Havens is an inventor, explorer, and submarine pilot from the hippie era of the late 1960's. He is very "cool" and relaxed and he loves to study the prophets. Shiloh is Woodstock's nephew. He is very easy going and easily amused. "Handsome" is a human hand (Actor's body is hidden.) Handsome assists everyone by handing them props.

Plot: Woodstock's nephew Shiloh shows up to help aboard the Love Sub. Woodstock teaches about Amos and his vision of God's plumb line. We learn if we "line up" with God, His Holy Spirit helps us get right with Him.

Costumes: Woodstock wears a tie-dyed shirt, wig, furry vest, brightly colored pants and shoes, and glasses. Shiloh wears 1960's clothes, sandals, blonde wig, and sunglasses.

Props: Clipboards, Bible, plumbline

Sound effects (SFX):

1. Intro/outro music suggestion: "1960's Surfer music"
2. Submarine alarm sounds, bells
3. Porthole music suggestion: song clip about power. Music plays when stage right porthole is opened to reveal Bible
4. Warning siren
5. Choice bell
6. Promise fanfare

Visual effects (VFX):

1. Video Intro featuring animated submarine is available at ResourceWell.org
2. Plumb line
3. Stage left porthole squirts water when opened
4. Stage right porthole holds the Bible. When opened, light shines out, porthole music plays
5. Warning lights: red beacons
6. Warning Slide: ***Prepare to meet your God, oh Israel! Amos 4:12b***
7. Choice lights: blinking spotlight
8. Choice slide: ***Seek good, not evil, that you may live. Amos 5:14a***
9. Promise lights: flashing lights
10. Promise slide: ***Then the LORD God Almighty will be with you, just as you say He is. Amos 5:14b***
11. Fallback slide: ***No matter where you are in time, God is good all the time!***

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

The Love Sub
Unit 7, Lesson 37
Amos and the Plumb Line
Amos 4:12b-13, 5:14, 7:7-8

(SFX: Intro music)

Video Intro: (VFX: Scientific images, SFX: Newsreel music) **Since the dawn of man, scientists have longed to travel through time! In the late 1960's a crack team of geniuses combined their talents to attempt to break the time barrier. In the Florida Keys, Dr. Woodstock P. Havens was given the task of building a special space shuttle—** (SFX: Record scratch)

Woodstock: Yeah, but I decided to make a submarine instead, man! (SFX: Intro/outro music, VFX: Animated submarine) **So, come on and join me as we float through time. Climb aboard the Love SUB!** (SFX: Submarine alarm sounds, bells)

Woodstock
Hey, Dudes and Dudettes, welcome back to the Love Sub! Man, meeting all of these prophets is pretty groovy, dudes, but there's no way I can study all of them and run this submarine at the same time. I've got to come up with a solution. (SFX: 3 dings, Handsome pops up holding newspaper.) **Oh, hey Handsome. What's in your hand?** (Handsome gives him a newspaper.) **Handsome! You're a genius! You put a Want Ad in the 1969 newspaper for a helper. Great idea!** (SFX: Warning siren, VFX: Red beacons)

Voiceover
Time Travel alert! Time Travel Alert! We have a time travel visitor in 3-2-1! (SFX: Submarine alarm sounds, bells)

Woodstock
Whoa! That's fast service!

Shiloh (enters through slide)
Wow! Uncle Woody? Like crazy, man! This place is psychedelic!

Woodstock
Shiloh? Is that you? Kids, this is my nephew, Shiloh.

Shiloh
What's up, little dudes? Hi-five, Handsome! So, like, where am I?

Woodstock
You're aboard the Love Sub.

Shiloh
Whoa, dude! Is this that time travel submarine you were working on?

Woodstock
You got it, dude. I finished it and splashed down into the year 2012.

Shiloh
2012! Whoa, I'm like in a whole new century! Radical!

Woodstock
Pretty righteous, huh? Now that you're here, you can help me, man.

Shiloh
Groovy baby, what do you want me to do?

Woodstock
Well, for starters, you can hold this plumb line.

Shiloh
Cool, I love to eat plums!

Woodstock
It's not the fruit kind of plum. A plumb line is a tool that builders use to measure if something is straight.

Shiloh (holds plumb line up to pipe)
Oh! So, if I hold this up it tells me if this pipe is straight?

Woodstock
That's right, man. It's just like the one God showed to Amos.

Shiloh

You mean Famous Amos?! Cool, I love his cookies!

Woodstock

Who is Famous Amos?

Shiloh

He's this dude who is famous for his awesome chocolate chip cookies.

Woodstock

Whoa, dude, it's not that Amos! This Amos was a shepherd and a prophet! God showed him a plumb line like this one and he told Amos to tell the people to straighten up! Here, let me tap into the power. (opens stage right porthole and removes Bible, SFX: Porthole music, VFX: Beam of light shines from porthole)

Shiloh

Wow, that's one powerful Word!

Woodstock

Right on, dude. Now, Amos was a prophet God sent to the nations.

Shiloh

Which nations?

Woodstock

The nation of Israel and the other nations around it. Amos was different than most prophets. God sent him to the people.

Shiloh

Well, who else would he send him to, man? The squirrels?

Woodstock

No, dude, that would be nuts! Some prophets brought their messages to leaders and kings, but Amos went straight to the people, especially the ones with nice homes and plenty of stuff.

Shiloh

And is that when he brought them the chocolate chip cookies?

Woodstock

No, man! He didn't bring any cookies! He brought God's plan!

Shiloh

So, did he warn them about a flood, or a war, or a swarm of locusts?

Woodstock

No man, he warned the rich people to treat others fairly, plus the people had gotten too comfortable and were following false gods! God sent Amos to warn them that they must return to God and follow Him. Here, read what he said.

Shiloh

(SFX: Warning siren, VFX: Warning slide, Red beacons) **Amos said, "Prepare to meet your God, oh Israel!"** Dude, it's the fuzz!

Woodstock

Chill, Shiloh! Take a chill pill, man. That's just the warning lights. They point out the prophet's warning.

Shiloh

Oh, he was warning them to prepare their hearts?

Woodstock

You got it, bro. It's like our song! (sings)
Prepare to meet your God, oh Israel.
Prepare to meet you God, oh Israel!

Shiloh

Groovy tune, man! So ... did they prepare?

Woodstock

Well, the prophets usually give a warning, a choice, and a promise.

Shiloh

Cool, so where's the choice?

Woodstock

Well, if the warning was in our song, maybe the choice is, too.

Shiloh

Man, I wish I had the sheet music! (SFX: 3 dings, Handsome pops up.) Hey, Handsome, do you know where we can find the words for the Bible Memory Verse Song?
(Handsome points to Bible.) **Oh yeah! It's a Bible Memory Verse Song so the words are—**

Both

In the Bible! Duh!

Woodstock

Thanks, Handsome, I think I found it! (SFX: Bell, VFX: Choice slide, blinking stoplight)
Seek good, not evil, that you may live.

Shiloh

You found the choice, Uncle Woodstock! God wanted them to do what's right! So, we got the warning and the choice. Is that it?

Woodstock

Nope. There's one more thing. What is it kids? (Children respond.) You got it! We need the promise.

Shiloh

What if there is no promise?

Woodstock

I don't know, man. There's almost always a promise.

Shiloh

Maybe the promise is God will give us plums and cookies!

Woodstock

Would you stop bringing up plums and cookies? You're thinking with your stomach, man. Besides, I don't think we're going to find the promise in a cookie jar!

Shiloh

Then, let's look in the Bible. Here's something. (SFX: Promise fanfare, VFX: Promise slide, flashing lights) *Then the LORD God Almighty will be with you, just as you say He is. I got one! I got one!*

Woodstock

Out of sight! Shiloh, you nailed it, man! God was saying if we choose to follow Jesus, His Holy Spirit will always be with us.

Shiloh

That's totally groovy, baby, because we couldn't do what's right without God's help.

Woodstock

Yeah, it's like God's Word is the plumb line next to our life. If we "line up" with God, His Holy Spirit helps us straighten things up and get right with God.

Shiloh

Man! That Amos is far out!

Woodstock

Yeah, Amos rocks and so does God!

Shiloh

And, so do those delicious cookies!

Woodstock (VFX: Fall back slide)

Well kids, we gotta split, but until next time, remember, "No matter where you are in time, God is good all the time!"

Shiloh

Stay righteous, little dudes! (SFX: Outro music)

(exit)