



Bible Drama Scripts
presents

SUCH A WONDER!

By Patricia Souder

SYNOPSIS: Rahab, the harlot of Jericho, and Ruth, a Moabite outsider, share their joy over the birth of Obed, Ruth's son and Rahab's grandson.

SETTING: Just after Obed's birth.

CHARACTERS: RAHAB and RUTH

PERFORMANCE TIME: 6-7 minutes.

PERFORMANCE NOTE: Characters say lines together when marked with a star.

TOPICS: God's grace. God's provision. The gift of life.

PERFORMANCE POSSIBILITIES: Mother's Day. Women's events, especially quilt weekends or sewing circles.

BIBLE REFERENCES: Joshua 2 and 6; Ruth; Matthew 1:5; Hebrews 11:31; James 2:25.

PROPS: Basket of cloth, including fleece, a piece of burlap or homespun, silk scarves, a red cloak, and large, flashy jewelry.

RAHAB

RUTH

(Enters with basket of cloth. Sets basket on table. (Enters holding baby.)

Runs to greet Ruth and baby. Excited, warm.)

Oh Ruth, what a beautiful little *boytchik*!

Your *boytchik's boytchik*, Rahab!

(Smiles warmly and offers to let Rahab hold baby.)

(Takes baby and fusses over him.)

My Boaz's son, Obed . . .

(Shakes head in amazement.)

Such a wonder!

Such a miracle!

Such a joy!

★ Such a joy!

(Shakes head and gestures with surprise.)

I keep asking myself why I should be so blessed.

I'm a foreigner . . . a Moabite . . .

And now I'm a Jewish Mama!

You ask why you're so blessed?

What about me?

I'm a Canaanite. . . an enemy. . .

A harlot from Jericho . . .

And now I'm a Jewish Grandmama!

(Both shake heads and laugh in wonder.)

(Both shake heads and laugh in wonder.)

Such a wonder!

Such a *miracle*!

Such a joy!

★ Such a joy!

(Looks at Obed and kisses him on head.)

Oh, Ruth, he's so precious!

(Kisses Obed again; hands him back to Ruth.)

I going to make Obed a memory blanket
to show him how good God has been to us.

Rahab, that sounds wonderful!

(Pulls large square of fleece out of basket.)

RAHAB

I thought I'd start with a simple fleece—
Nothing fancy or fine—
Just something soft and warm—
Like our family is now.

(Nods in agreement. Spreads fleece on table.)

A miracle, really.

Me, too.

But it wasn't always that way.

(Holds up piece of burlap or rough homespun.)

I found a scrap from one of my childhood tunics.

I remember that rough, scratchy sackcloth. . .

I hated wearing it!

Do you think I should include it?

(Nods thoughtfully. Lays homespun on fleece.)

I never liked life's rough edges.

(Pulls bright silk scarves out of basket and caresses them.)

I always wanted life to be smooth and shiny—
like these scarves.

Oh, yes. . . It swishes and swirls . . .

RUTH

Even that's a wonder, isn't it, Rahab?

(Smiles and shakes head.)

I know. I'm so happy I can hardly believe it!

(Feels cloth.)

Well, I wouldn't want to wrap Obed in it while he's a baby, but I think he'll like playing with its bumpy texture as he grows.

Besides, it's part of your past. . .

and it will be good for Obed to learn that life has its rough edges right from the start.

(Reaches over and slides hand over a scarf.)

Ah, silk!

RAHAB

(Swishes scarves through air.)

(Smiles and nods her head in agreement.)

Most babies do.

I want Obed to enjoy beauty. . .

(Pauses and shakes her head sadly.)

But I hope he'll be wiser than his Grandmama.

I wanted the soft, shiny things of life so much
that I sold myself to get them and became
the Scarlet Harlot of Jericho.

(Drops head and shakes sadly.)

I got fancy clothes . . .

*(Drapes herself in a red shawl, pins with brooch,
and dons black lace headpiece while speaking.)*

fabulous jewelry . . .

and a house on Jericho's wall . . .

but I was miserable and empty inside.

I looked good on the outside . . .

Just like the Canaanite men who came to me.

But they were dead men, desperate like me . . .

And terrified of the Israelites across the Jordan.

True. When the Jewish spies came to my door,

I knew they were different.

I was so sick of the life I was living,

I decided to help them.

(Shrugs shoulders.)

After all, what did I have to lose?

RUTH

Obed will love stroking the silky scarves!

Only the Israelites didn't know that,
so they were scared of the Canaanites!

(Looks at Rahab in disbelief.)

Your life?

Remember the soldiers who came to your
house to find the spies?

RAHAB

(Sighs and gestures.)

How could I forget?

It was my moment of destiny and I had to choose:

Would it be the soldiers or the spies?

Somehow I knew the right thing to do
was to hide the spies.

I rushed them to my roof and hid them under
the flax I was drying there.

After the soldiers left, I helped
them escape by a rope hung from my window.

(Shrugs.)

Maybe. But remember, I had no future in Jericho.

Canaan was a wicked place, so God promised it to Israel.

I wanted to serve God. . . not fight with Him.

(Nods and smiles.)

And wonderful how God works when we do
what's right!

And they saved mine!

(Pulls thick red cord out of basket and shows it to Ruth.)

They told me to hang this scarlet cord in my window
so they could rescue my family when the attack came.

(Strokes cord.)

This scarlet cord became my hope of redemption . . .

RUTH

It was a brilliant plan . . . but so dangerous!
You could have been executed for treason!

(Smiles knowingly.)

That's the same reason I came here with Naomi.

I knew she served the true God.

(Points to her heart.)

It's funny how you know what's right, isn't it?

You saved the spies' lives, Rahab!

And your means of deliverance when the walls fell.

RAHAB

(Nods. Then places cord on fleece.)

It was also the cord that led to my marriage to Salmon,
one of the Jewish spies.

And I have a Jewish grandson!
I hate to think of telling little Obed
about my sinful life . . .
but I want him to know that the scarlet cord of
redemption—God’s redemption—
extends to all who trust in God . . .
regardless of what we’ve done . . .

(Pauses to feel each of the fabrics.)

Oh Ruth, who can imagine the ways
of the Almighty?

Ah, Ruth! God is *so good!*
This little boy is such a wonder . . .

Such a joy!

(Rahab and Ruth embrace. Rahab raises hands in praise; Ruth lifts baby and looks up in wonder.)

Yet belonging to the true God is an even
greater wonder!

A marvelous miracle!

And an eternal joy!

What an incredible wonder!

RUTH

And you gave birth to Boaz, the wonderful man
Who noticed me gleaning in his fields
And gave Naomi and me a new life by marrying me!

(Looks lovingly at Obed.)

And now I have a Jewish son!

Or who we are.

(Also feels fabrics.)

Or think of a better way to teach little Obed about them?

Ah, Rahab! God is *so good!*

Such a miracle!

Such a joy!

Yet belonging to the true God is an even
greater wonder!

A marvelous miracle!

And an eternal joy!

What an incredible wonder!