



Worship Illustration: Storybook

Bible Barn

God of Wonders Part 2: Genesis - Joshua

Unit 5, Lesson 22

Creating the World: Days 1 & 2

Genesis 1:1-8

Wyoming Jones dug into his back pocket and pulled out a handful of sugar cubes. As he opened his hand, the large brown cow, leaned her neck forward for the tasty treat. "Elsie, have you seen my brother this mornin'? I don't know if I ever told you, but he is the rootenest, tootenest, high-falootenest, sharp shootenest, cowboy what ever rode the wild range!"

Wyoming stroked Elsie behind her ears, and led her toward the barn door. Suddenly it swung open, and a tall skinny figure wearing an oversized cowboy hat appeared in the doorway.

"Hoo-oo-oo doggy! Howdy, hi there, little brother," Catastrophe Jones stepped into the barn and gave his brother a big hug. "I've been searchin' all over Camp Venture for you! I want to teach the campers a Bible story."

"Well, I know lots of Bible stories! Which one you wanna teach 'em?" Wyoming asked.

"I wrote it down...only I put it way up in that there can," Catastrophe pointed to a row of cans on the top shelf in the barn.

Wyoming shrugged his shoulders, "Well, how we `posed to get it down?"

"I happen to be an expert sharp shooter!" Catastrophe pulled a slingshot from his pocket.

Wyoming handed him a pebble from the barn floor. "Ready? Aim? Fire!"

Catastrophe's shot knocked a tin can to the floor. Wyoming ran over to the can and looked inside. "I gots it! I gots it! It says Gee-no-sus one!"

"All right! That there's the book of Genesis. Let me get out the Bible...I keep it here in the grain bin!" As Catastrophe opened the bin, a Bible along with a pile of grain poured out and landed in the bushel basket. "Here she is! My favorite book, the Bible!"

Wyoming looked puzzled. "Now, brother, why you keep your Bible in the grain bin?"

Catastrophe smiled, "Because the Bible is the bread of life! Now, little brother, as you know, the first three words in the beginning of the book of Genesis are 'In the beginning.' But, if we look a little deeper, we can see that the first five words are, "In the beginning God created..."

"Well, I know all about God's creation. As an expert explorer, that's what I do all the time, guide people through God's creation!" Wyoming paused, "What did God create first?"

"Well, let's see here." Catastrophe opened the Bible to the first page and began to read. "The Bible says, 'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.'"

Wyoming smiled, "Well, that was very nice of God. Our earth was so important to Him, that He created it on the third day."

"First day!" Catastrophe politely corrected him.

Wyoming nodded, "Right! The first day!"

Catastrophe continued, "But it didn't look like it does now. The Bible says, 'Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep.'"

"Yikes, I'm scared of the dark!" Wyoming admitted.

"Calm down, little brother!" Catastrophe put his arm on Wyoming's shoulder and comforted him, "When it's dark outside we can look up and see so many beautiful things like the moon and stars and planets, maybe even lightning bugs."

Wyoming added nervously, "But none of those things had been created 'in the beginning.'"

"That's right!" Catastrophe agreed. "There was only emptiness and darkness..."

"Darkness is scary..." Wyoming interrupted.

"Ah, don't be such a baby!" Catastrophe winked at his brother and then continued reading. "And God said, 'Let there be light!' And there was light."

"Hey, that's good!" Wyoming cheered.

"God thought the light was good, too." Catastrophe continued reading, "Then He separated the light from the darkness. God called the light 'day,' and the darkness He called 'night.' And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day."

Suddenly a huge cloud passed over the sun making it very dark in the dusty, old barn. "It's dark, it's dark!" Wyoming was alarmed. "Why does it always have to be dark and scary?"

"Stop acting like a big sissy," Catastrophe laughed as he lit his lantern.

"Oh, thank the Lord, you have light!" Wyoming sighed.

"No, thank the Lord He created light! On the very first day, He created day and night – and that was just the beginning."

"It was 'in the beginning,'" Wyoming asked curiously, "What did God do the second day?"

Catastrophe answered, "Next God separated the water on the ground from the moisture in the air and God created the sky."

"Can you imagine a time when the sky wasn't there?" Wyoming added, "I can't even think of what that would look like!"

Catastrophe nodded in agreement then asked, "What was your favorite part of the story?"

"Um...the part about God?" Wyoming answered.

"But the whole thing was about God! I think the most interesting thing is that God began His creation in the heavens and the sky," Catastrophe explained.

"Woah! That reminds me! I was 'posed to tell you about today's Camp Critter!" Wyoming jumped up.

"What critter you talking 'bout?" Catastrophe asked.

"Every day at Camp Venture, we have a special critter that helps us remember our Bible story!" Wyoming explained.

Catastrophe asked, "What's today's critter?"

"I will call him and you'll find out!" Wyoming cupped his hands around his mouth and began to call, " Caw-ka-ka-caw!"

Just then, an eagle landed on the barn windowsill. "Well, lookie-see-here. It's an eagle! That makes sense because the eagle soars high above the earth," Catastrophe pointed out.

Wyoming agreed, "The eagle soars high in the sky that God created!"

"Oh, I get it!" Catastrophe motioned to Wyoming, "Let's go introduce our campers to the Camp Critter Song!"

The two Jones brothers headed out of the barn and down the path leading to the Camp Venture cabins. Along the way they could be heard singing the first verse of the Camp Critter song:

**"I spied an EAGLE overhead.
Here is what that EAGLE said,
"With just one word—
God made the earth!"
And the EAGLE hollered,
"Yippee-kigh-yay!
At Camp Venture today!"**