



Worship Illustration: Storybook

Bible Barn

God of Wonders Part 2: Genesis - Joshua

Unit 5, Lesson 23

Creating the World: Days 3 & 4

Genesis 1:9-19

The Bible Barn was filled with laughter and lively conversation as campers settled down on their burlap "sit-upon" mats. By the fourth day of Camp Venture, the newcomers were beginning to really enjoy themselves and make friends with the returning campers.

Catastrophe Jones cleared his throat, "Hoo-oo-oo doggy! Howdy, hi there, Campers. Welcome back! Ya'll know me, Catastrophe Jones! I'm here to learn ya some more about God's Creation."

Just then the Bible Barn doors swung open and a fisherman with a stuffed fish on his cap stood in the doorway. "Hey, Catastrophe! Catastrophe Jones! Oh, Catastrophe Jones!"

"Well, lookie there, kids," Catastrophe Jones smiled. "If'n it ain't my cousin, Fishhead Jones! What you doin' in these here parts?"

The campers dodged the fishing lure and line swinging from Fishhead's fishing pole as he made his way through the maze of campers. He answered, "Well, you 'member that one time I said we ought to go fishin' together some time and you said, 'If you're ever by the Bible Barn stop on by!'"

"I do remember that," Catastrophe replied.

Fishhead patted his cousin on the back, "Well, here I is! Let's go fishin'!"

Catastrophe shook his head, "Fishhead, I can't just run off right now. I gots to teach a Bible lesson."

"Oh, well I'll help you out! I always wanted to be a preacher man!" Fishhead said excitedly.

Catastrophe asked, "What do you know about the Bible?"

"Nothin'," Fishhead shrugged his shoulders.

"Well, sometimes nothin's an okay place to start," Catastrophe replied. "But, before we get to preachin', I should swear you in by sayin' our Camp Venture Pledge. Hey kids, let's stand and say our pledge." He continued as the campers scrambled quickly to their feet, "Raise your right hand and repeat after me.

*I will Love God with all my heart,
I will Love my neighbor as myself,
I will be a Light wherever I go!"*

"That was su-weet!" Fishhead exclaimed. "Now, what part of the Bible are ya teachin' about?"

"Creation. But the actual verse is up there in that can." Catastrophe pointed to a row of rusty tin cans on a high shelf. He pulled a slingshot from his vest, carefully placed a pebble in it, aimed and shot the can on his first try. It fell to the barn floor.

"Good shootin' cousin!" Fishhead drew a slip of paper from the can. "Looks like we're in the first book of the Bible, Genesis."

"That make's sense 'cause that's where it all began. Let me get out my Bible." Catastrophe replied as he opened the grain bin. A Bible along with a pile of grain poured out and landed in the bushel basket.

"Last time, we learned God created night and day and the sky all in two days," Catastrophe remind the camper as he opened his Bible to the first page. "Next, God created the land. See, first God gathered the water in one place, and then He let dry ground appear." He read, "God called the dry ground 'land,' and the gathered waters He called 'seas.' And God saw that it was good."

"That was spectacular!" Fishhead exclaimed.

Catastrophe continued reading, "Then God said, 'Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.' And it was so."

Fishhead scratched his head and wondered; "Now why do you think that God made seed-bearing plants and trees that had fruit with seed in it? Do you think God wanted to make a fruit smoothie?"

Catastrophe answered, "That's right...I mean, no! Maybe God likes smoothies but I think the real reason He made fruit trees is because God always plans ahead."

"Oh! I see!" Fishhead explained, "God knew that plants and trees with seeds would be able to grow more plants and trees!"

"Yup," Catastrophe nodded. "He was creating food for the future."

A camper asked, "So, what did God create on the fourth day?"

"Let's see here," Catastrophe turned the page in the Bible and read aloud, "God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth."

"So God made the sky and the land and then He filled them up with the planets and the plants." Fishhead added with a wide grin, "Hooo-weee! And that nighttime sky sure is beautiful, ain't it! It's as purdy as a prize pig! And God made sure that everything had a purpose."

"Yup," Catastrophe agreed. "The sun, moon and stars help us know the time and seasons. They help everything grow!"

"I can't wait to get home and tell my pet catfish all about this. She will especially like the part about God making and naming the seas!" Fishhead began to make his way toward the barn doors.

"Catastrophe!!!" A camper called out. "Can the catfish be today's Camp Critter?"

"That's a great idea," Catastrophe nodded. "God made the land and seas and the catfish can be found on every continent, except Antarctica, and in all types of water, lakes, rivers, streams, even oceans!"

"And they swim at night and day under the sun and under the beautiful stars, which God made on the fourth day," added Fishhead.

"Campers, before he goes, let's teach Fishhead our Camp Critter Song," Catastrophe said as he gestured for the campers to stand and sing.

Fishhead listened carefully as the campers sang their Camp Critter song to him. Then he waved goodbye and headed out the barn door. From inside the barn, the campers could hear Fishhead's voice in the distance, singing as he with all his heart as he skipped along the path:

**I spied a CATFISH overhead.
Here is what that CATFISH said,
"He filled the heavens and the land
- with the planets and the plants!"
Whew! I spied a CATFISH
who followed an EAGLE,
And the EAGLE hollered,
"Yippee-kigh-yay!
At Camp Venture today!"**