

## The Story of Creation

I wrote this story for the Writer's Group I joined recently. The rules of the group are pretty simple - we meet once a month and read what we wrote, then decide a topic for the next month. Our topic this month was miracles. My story is a modern day adaptation of the Biblical Story of Creation from the Book of Genesis. If you are familiar with the story, you'll recognize a lot of the lines. If not, you should read it first. It's easy to find, open any Bible and read the very first chapter. Hope you enjoy:

"Let there be light!" yelled Jimmy up to his fearless confidante. Dave startled to attention, vigorously shaking his head and blinking his eyes. It seems the plush new desk chairs they had placed in the control room earlier in the day were even more comfortable than he had given them credit for. Somewhere along the line, he had begun to doze off. You couldn't blame him really, ever since Jimmy had got the notion to make this great new creation the two had worked tirelessly to bring it to fruition. But now it was crunch time. They had 7 days and a lot of work to do. It was late and dark and Dave hoped that this meant today's goal was accomplished. "I said...Let there be light!" "Oh, sorry Jimmy, one second." Dave moved over to the control board and lifted the big red-handled lever to the on position. The entire area flooded with the light of a clear summer's day. They saw how good the light was. Before leaving they changed the on and off labels. Now the light would be called day and the darkness would be called night. Evening had long since come and morning would soon follow, so they called that an end to the first day.

"Let there be a dome in the middle to separate the rain from the people." When Dave first heard it, he was convinced that Jimmy was nuts. "You want to put a free standing, retractable roof over an outdoor field? That's impossible." He should have known better than to doubt. For the creator, anything was possible. Today the dome was put into place. They had even painted the underside a brilliant blue with a touch of clouds. They called the dome "the sky." Evening came, and morning followed - the second day.

"Let the water under the sky be gathered into a single basin so

that the dry land may appear." Dave sat perplexed just staring at Jimmy. "Seriously dude, I have no idea what you mean by that...and why do you keep talking like that?" Jimmy seemed to snap back to attention and said, "Sorry, I just want this place to represent the earth, so we'll make a runoff for the water from the sprinkler system into the basin by the parking lot to make a pond which we'll call the sea. I also want to bring forth vegetation, so we'll put ivy on the fences and fruit trees behind the fences." It was a long day, but they got it done and saw how good it was. Evening came, and morning followed - the third day.

"Let there be lights in the dome of the sky, to separate day from night." "Jimmy, the electrician and his team have been here for an hour and they've been scheduled for over a month, they know what they're supposed to do. So what's with the weird announcement? ... And stop talking like that." By the time the day was over they could play by the sunlight during the day, the big lights that were now three days old to play by in the moonlight, and now the "stars" - small lights attached to the "sky" for rainy day games. They saw how good it was. Evening came, and morning followed - the fourth day.

"Let the water teem with an abundance of living creatures, and on earth let birds fly beneath the dome of the sky." Dave just looked at Jimmy for almost two minutes before saying, "I don't know what is scarier - the fact that you won't stop talking like that, or the fact that I actually understand you. The fish for the pond should be here any minute and we received uniforms for 5 of the teams - Dolphins, Falcons, Eagles, Doves, and Orioles." When the fish arrived and were placed in the pond, Jimmy stood at the edge with his bare feet in the water and arms out wide and shouted, "Be fertile, multiply, and fill the water of the sea!" Evening came, and morning followed - the fifth day.

"Let the earth bring forth all kinds of living creatures: cattle, creeping things, and wild animals." "Yes Jimmy, the last three sets of uniforms are in - Bulls, Spiders, and Lions." Suddenly a huge wave of relief came over Jimmy's face. They were done. Jimmy stepped close to Dave and embraced him. With Dave's shoulders still in his hands, Jimmy leaned back, smiled warmly, and said, "Well then there's just one thing left to do...Let me make a man in my image, after my likeness. Let him have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds, cattle, wild animals

and all the creatures that crawl on the ground." "Jimmy, you're freaking me out man! Now what are you talking about? You need to get some rest, buddy." Jimmy laughed heartily, then said, "You're absolutely right. My house is right next door so I will always be with you, but I've decided to make you the man. This park is yours - fill it and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish, the birds, and all the living things." Dave accepted and one final time they looked around at everything they had made, and they found it very good. Evening came, and morning followed - the sixth day.

Thus the preparations of the Society of Jesus Little League and St. Ignatius Memorial Field were completed. Since on the seventh day Jimmy was finished with the work he had been doing, he rested on the seventh day from all the work he had undertaken. And it was while he sat on his porch, eyes closed, slowly rocking in his grandfather's rocking chair that the miracle happened. For 12 hours on that holy seventh day the air was full of the sounds of heaven - children laughed and played. Parents cheered. The occasional crack of the bat led to roars from all, but it was the quiet whisper of constant laughter and happiness that truly warmed Jimmy's heart. Sure, he knew there would be problems in the future, but it was the days like today that would make his creation more than worth it.

Until next time...