# Genesis 1:1-26

## The Word on the Street (Rob Lacey)

First off, nothing... but God. No light, no time, no substance, no matter. Second off, God says the word and WHAP! Stuff everywhere! The cosmos in chaos: no shape, no form, no function - just darkness...total. And floating about it all, God's Holy Spirit, ready to play.

Day one: Then God's voice booms out, "LIGHTS" and, from nowhere, lights flood the skies and night is swept off the scene. God gives it the big thumbs up, "call it day."

Day two: God says, "SKY! I want a dome - right there between the waters above and below." It happens.

Day three: God says, "LAND! Too much water! We need something to walk on, a huge lump of it - Let the 'sea' lick its edges." God smiles, says, "Now we've got us some definition. But it's too plain! It needs color! Vegetation! Loads of it. A million shades. Now!"

And the earth goes wild with trees, bushes, plants, flowers and fungis. "Now give it a growth permit." Seeds appear in everyone. "Yesss!" says God.

Day four: God says, "SUN and MOON. We need a schedule: let's have a 'sun' for the day, a 'moon' for the night; I want 'seasons', years', and give us 'stars', masses of stars - think of a number, add a trillion, then times it by the number of trees and we're getting there: we're talking huge!"

Day five: God says, "ANIMALS! Animals, amoeba, crustaceans, insects, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals... I want the whole caboodle teeming with a million varieties of each - and let's have some fun with the shapes, sizes, colours, textures!" God tells them all, "You've got a growth permit - use it!" He sits back and smiles, says, "Result!"

Day six: 'Then God says, "PEOPLE! Let's make people - like us, but human with flesh and blood, skin and bone. Give them the job of caretakers of the vegetation, game wardens of all the animals." So God makes people, like him but human. He makes male and female. He smiles at them and gives them their job description: "Make babies! Be parents, grandparents, great-grandparents - fill the Earth with your families and run the planet well.

You've got all the plants to eat from, so have all the animals - plenty for all. Enjoy!" God looks at everything he's made, and says, "Fantastic. I love it!"

Day seven: Job done - the cosmos and the earth complete.God takes a bit of a well-earned R&R and just enjoys. He makes an announcement: "Let's keep this day of the week special, a day off - a battery recharge day: a rest day."

## Questions:

1) Using the 'Going deeper' handout' that illustrates the creation time-line, which day do you think was the most important and why?
2) Do you think the world was created in six days or do you have a different view?
3) Is God in the centre of the creation story or are there other forces or scientific theories at work? (i.e. the big bang and evolution theories).
4) What in creation speaks most to you about the character of God?

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