

THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS



John Bunyan (1628-1688)

Course PL1 - Study Guide

Name: _____ Student ID: _____ Date: _____

Instructions for this course

The *reading material* for this course consists of the booklet provided with this study guide: either *The Pilgrim's Progress in Pictures*, or *The Pilgrim's Progress for Everyone*.

Before each lesson: pray for God to give a teachable heart and understanding.
Begin the lesson by reading the related section in the book provided.



Answer the questions for the corresponding lesson in this study guide.
Write your answers directly in this booklet. If you use separate note paper, put your name, course, lesson number, and question number on each sheet. Use any standard note paper.
Try to be as clear and concise as possible.
Please do not rush! Meditate on what God wants you to learn.
Don't go to the next question until completing the current one.

If, and only if, you are taking the course as correspondence study (with written feedback from others):
After completing all the lessons 1 to 10, send your answers (this booklet) to your course coordinator.
Only mail your answers, not other materials.
All sent answers are handled confidentially.
Label the envelope's lower left with: student ID, course, and lesson numbers.



Continue taking the course until all lessons are completed.
Three months are allotted for course completion. Extensions may be granted upon request.



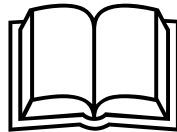
Your answer sheets are returned to you after review.
Keep all materials and returned answers together for future reference.

The
Pilgrim's
Progress

from this world to that which is to come

John Bunyan

1678



Study Guide

Course PL1

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The Pilgrim's Progress

Study Guide

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How to Use This Study Guide

This Study Guide is based on the booklet *The Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan. Please answer the questions from the information given in the booklet. Each section in the booklet corresponds to a lesson you are doing. For example, the information you need to answer the questions from the first part of *lesson one* in this Study Guide is found in *section one* in the booklet. Before you begin the questions, be sure and read the booklet's sections for the lesson you are taking.

Please read slowly enough so you understand what you read. It is also always good to pray before each lesson, asking the LORD for wisdom to apply what you learn to your life—and to enable you to love Him with all your mind, heart, soul, and strength... for this is the first commandment (Mark 12:30).

*Most questions are **response** questions, and are intended to support a basic understanding of the message of The Pilgrim's Progress. These questions form the basic part of the study.*

***Making It Personal** questions bring the biblical principles into practical application. Please answer these in your own words. The goal here is change in your own life toward God. There are no right or wrong answers; we are looking only for your honesty with yourself in personal commitments.*

About Pilgrim's Progress

The Pilgrim's Progress is an allegory, which means that the names of people and places not only describe those people and places, but also stand for something more significant. "Christian," for instance, is the story's hero. Yet his name represents every person who follows Christ. The story tells of his pilgrimage – his walk as a Christian on this earth from his first seeking after salvation from sin, his conversion by being "born again," through the many trials of life, to his death and entrance into heaven.

The most significant feature in the opening sentences of the book is the author's observation that Christian walks with a "book in his hand." That book is the Bible, God's Word to mankind. Every page of *The Pilgrim's Progress* points us to the higher source of life itself: God and the Lord Jesus Christ as revealed in God's Word.

The Pilgrim's Progress

Course PL1

Study Guide

Lesson 1 Conviction of Sin

Christian's Pilgrimage

1. What was it in what he had read that troubled the man's heart?
"Our city will be _____ with fire from heaven, and we shall _____ come to _____ unless some way of escape can be found!"
2. What was the reaction of his family?
"His family was _____. They thought some _____ had seized him."
3. a. What was his cry as he walked in the fields?
"What must I do to be _____?"
(See Acts 16:30-31.)
b. *Making It Personal* Have you ever asked God this question?
4. a. How did the man answer Evangelist when he was asked, "Why do you cry?"
"Sir, I am not fit to go to _____."
(See Hebrews 9:27; Ezekiel 22:14.)
"Evangelist" means one who spreads the good news of salvation from sin through Christ, one who bears witness to God's ways.
The man also said, "I perceive by the book in my hand that I am condemned to die, and after that to come to Judgment; and I find that I am not willing to do the first (Job 14:21,22), nor able to do the second."

- b. *Making It Personal:* Do you feel ready to stand before God and have Him pronounce whether you are fit to enter into heaven? Why or why not?

*When the man said, “I do not know where to go,’ then Evangelist handed him a parchment roll.” This parchment roll is the Gospel, the good news that God has provided forgiveness of sins in Christ. The Gospel calls us to seek Christ with all our hearts.
(Jeremiah 29:13)*

5. Did it matter that the man could not see the entire way ahead of him so clearly at first? _____

God requires us to trust Him only according to the light He has given us today (i.e., what He has revealed to us in the Scriptures).

6. a. What did Christian do when his wife and children cried after him?

“His wife and children cried after him, but he put his _____ in his _____.”
(See Luke 14:26.)

- b. Why do you think the man did not stay to take care of his family, or listen to their cries for him to stay with them?

“Leaving our family” is not an example to follow. The emphasis here is the need to seek Christ with a whole heart, and not to listen to those who would tell us that all will be OK without Christ.

7. The Bible contains several different types of literature in its various parts: The Law (which brings conviction of sin), History, Prophets, Poetry (the Psalms and Proverbs), The Gospels, Letters, and the End Times (Revelation).
- a. What part of the Bible was the man (whose name becomes “Christian”) reading from in the opening scene, which caused him to weep and tremble?
- b. Read Romans 3:19-20 in your own Bible. What is it that can make us “become guilty before God?”
“Now we know that what things soever the _____ saith, it saith to them who are under the _____ : that every mouth may be stopped, and **all the world may**

become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the _____ there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the _____ is the knowledge of sin.”

8. Can keeping the law save you from your sins?

a. Answer from Galatians 2:16.

“Knowing that a man is _____ justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall _____ be justified.”

To be “justified” is to be made right with God. This verse tells us the reason the man had such a huge burden on his back. The burden is the burden of his guilt from his sins.

b. Answer from Galatians 3:10.

“For as many as are of the works of the law, are under the curse: for it is written, ‘Cursed is every one that continueth not in _____ things which are written in the book of the law to do them.’”

This tells us that we must keep the law 100% perfectly to be right before God. No wonder the man felt so guilty!

9. *Making It Personal:*

a. Are you guilty of breaking God’s moral law?

b. Will your good works satisfy God to forgive you of the penalty for breaking His law? Briefly explain.

If you are guilty (and ALL people are – see Romans 3:23 and Isaiah 64:6), and if your good works will not help you to earn salvation, then you have need of a Savior—just like Christian.

An Unfriendly Neighbor

10. In what ways did the neighbors react to Christian’s running toward the shining light?

“Some _____, others _____, or cried to him to _____. Two resolved to fetch him back by _____.”

11. Why wouldn't Obstinate go with him?
“‘What,’ said Obstinate, ‘and leave our _____
and our _____ behind?’”
(See Jeremiah 20:10; Matthew 19:22; 2 Corinthians 4:18.)

The people that Christian encounters in his journey have names that represent characteristics of people all around us. Some represent good qualities, others represent negative ones.

Obstinate asked him, “What are the things you seek, since you leave all the world to find them?” (Luke 14:33). Christian answered, “I seek an inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fades not away (1 Pet. 1:4). It is laid up in heaven, and safe there, to be bestowed, at the time appointed, on them that diligently seek it” (Heb. 11:16).

12. Christian said, “There is an everlasting kingdom and an everlasting life.” What does he mean by this?
(See Isaiah 65:17; John 10:27-29.)
Please also read John 3:15-21 and John 17:3 in your Bible.

Lesson 2 Seeking the Savior

The Slough of Despond

A “slough” is a miry swamp. It makes for very hard walking. “Despond” means to be disheartened and discouraged. Many people fall into this slough when they begin to look down at their troubles, and feel the weight of the burden on their backs.

1. a. Why did Pliable go home when the going got tough? Was he sincerely looking for salvation from his sins, or something else?
“Is this the _____ you told me of?”
- b. Why did Pliable have no burden on his back?
- c. Read Mark 4:1-9 and 13-20. Which soil was Pliable most like? Why?

2. When men are seeking Christ, why do they get disheartened and give up when in the *Slough of Despond*?

“‘This slough,’ said Help, ‘is caused by the many

_____ and _____

which settle here.’”

Help explained: “It is such a place as cannot be mended: it is the descent whither the filth that attends conviction for sin doth continually run. As the sinner is awakened about his lost condition, there arises in his soul many discouraging apprehensions, which all of them get together, and settle in this place: and this is the reason of the badness of this ground.”

Worldly Wiseman’s Advice

3. Mr. Worldly Wiseman told Christian of what seemed an alternative way to remove the burden of guilt on his back. What was his solution to the burden of guilt?

“‘You should visit _____

and his son Civility,’ said Mr. Wiseman. ‘They’ll help.’”

“Civility” means to do good deeds for others so they will like you.

Mr. Wiseman added, “Why, in yonder village Morality, there dwells a gentleman whose name is Legality, a very judicious man, and a man of a very good name. He has skill to help men off with such burdens as thine are from their shoulders; and besides, he hath skill to cure those that are somewhat crazed in their wits with their burdens.”

By keeping moral rules, some people begin to feel that they are basically “good,” and that they deserve acceptance by God because they are better than many others. They do not feel as guilty over their sin.

4. a. Why did Christian’s burden only grow heavier as he struggled up the hill toward Legality?

“Legality” means to try and be a good person by performing well in the eyes of God – trying to keep God’s rules in order to earn God’s favor. The hill was called “Sinai,” the place where God gave His Laws to Moses and the Israelites. We are to keep God’s moral rules, but our motive must be love for Him.

(See Exodus 19:16-18; Galatians 2:16; Hebrews 12:21.)

Christian’s labor toward Legality is described: “But, behold, when he was got now hard by the hill, it seemed so high. And also, the

side of it that was next the wayside did hang so much over, that Christian was afraid to venture farther, lest the hill should fall on his head. Wherefore there he stood still, and knew not what to do. Also his burden now seemed heavier to him than while he was in his way. There came also flashes of fire out of the hill, that made Christian afraid that he should be burned (Ex. 19:16-18). Here, therefore, he sweat and did quake for fear (Heb. 12:21)."

Notice how Christian could see his way clearly up toward Legality right away, but that his view of the wicket gate was at first obscured. The world clouds our understanding of spiritual things, but its ways of pride and selfishness seem so natural for us.

- b. Read Ephesians 2:8-9. What does it tell us about how we are saved from the penalty of sin?
"For by grace are ye saved *through faith*; and that not of yourselves: it is the _____ of God: Not of _____, lest any man should boast."
- c. *Making It Personal*: Have you ever tried to earn God's favor by keeping rules or by doing good works?

The Law has value to show us our moral failures and need of a Savior, to point us to Christ, and to protect us from evil. Keeping the law has no value to earn righteousness.

Romans 3:19-20, "Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin."

5. What was Evangelist's answer to the wrong advice of Mr. Worldly Wiseman?
- a. "'Hear the _____ of God!' said Evangelist. 'The just shall live by _____; but if any man _____, My soul shall have no pleasure in him!'" (Hebrews 10:38)
- b. "Be not faithless, but _____!" (See Matthew 12:31; John 20:27.)

Evangelist explained: "Mr. Worldly Wiseman is so called; partly because he savors only the doctrine of this world (therefore he always goes to the town of Morality to church) and partly because he loves that doctrine best, for it saves him from the Cross. Because he is of this carnal temper, therefore he seeks to pervert my ways.

Now there are three things in this man's counsel that you must utterly abhor: 1. His turning thee out of the way; 2. His laboring to render the Cross odious to thee; 3. And his setting thy feet in that way that leads unto the administration of death."
(1 John 4:5; Galatians 6:12)

Christian Knocks at the Wicket Gate

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."—Matthew 7:7

6. a. When Goodwill asked Christian "who was there," how did Christian describe himself?
"A poor burdened _____,"
Christian answered."
(See 1 Timothy 1:15.)

Note: to be ashamed of calling yourself a "sinner" is an indication of pride in the heart.

*"Mount Zion" is the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, and in the Bible is often used to mean the same as heaven – God's dwelling place.
(Psalm 9:11, 125:1)*

- b. *Making It Personal:* How would you describe yourself if asked by Goodwill, "Why should I let you in, what is it that you want?"

7. Why did Goodwill pull Christian in quickly?
"For," he said, "Beelzebub shoots _____
at those coming up to the gate to try and _____
them." (See Ephesians 6:16; John 10:10.)

"Beelzebub" is a name for the devil, the evil one.

8. a. Describe "the way" which Goodwill showed Christian that he must follow.
"It is as _____ as a rule
can make it—this is the way you must go."
b. Read Matthew 7:13-14. Is the way to God wide or narrow?
"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat. Because strait is the gate, and

_____ is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”

Lesson 3 Salvation

Christian at the Cross

1. a. Describe what happened when Christian came to the Cross.
“As Christian came up to the cross, his burden _____ his back and began to tumble. It continued to fall until it came to the mouth of the sepulcher, where it fell in and I saw it _____.”
(See Isaiah 53:6; John 3:18; 1 John 4:9-10.)
- b. How does Psalm 103:12 describe God’s forgiveness of sins, represented by Christian’s burden falling away completely out of sight.
“As far as the _____ is from the _____, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us.”
- c. What exactly did Christian do in order to be saved?
“As Christian _____, his burden fell off his back...”
Notice that Christian had nothing to do but seek the Savior. His only need was to come to the Cross, and God did all the work: freeing him of his burden of guilt forever, and clothing him with Christ’s righteousness, because Christ had paid his penalty for sin.
2. Read the following verses and tell how this is a picture of salvation in Jesus Christ, through God’s grace to us by faith alone, apart from any good works or merit on our part.
 - a. 2 Corinthians 5:21
“For He [God] hath made Him [Jesus] to be _____ for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the _____ of God in Him.”
 - b. Romans 6:23
“For the wages of sin is _____; but the _____ of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

- c. Romans 5:8-10
 “But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet _____, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by His _____, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the _____ of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.”

If we are sinners, and the penalty for sin is death, then we must either pay the penalty ourselves, or else we need a Substitute who will die in our place. This is the gift of God in Jesus Christ, to all who will turn to Him.

The Shining Ones

3. What did each of the three Shining Ones say or do to Christian?
- “The first said, ‘Thy sins be _____ thee.’”
(Mark 2:5)
 - “The second clothed him with a _____ of raiment [clothes]...”
(Zechariah 3:4)
 - “The third set a mark on his forehead and gave him a roll with a _____ upon it which he should give in at the _____.”
(Ephesians 1:13)

The three Shining Ones can represent the work of the triune God in salvation: God the Father forgives, God the Son clothes with His righteousness which He won at the cross for His children, and God the Holy Spirit seals them for all eternity.

This roll with a seal represents the Holy Bible, to be read continually for guidance and comfort during his journey. It represents assurance of salvation for those truly saved—a constant source of encouragement for the saints. It also represents his certificate of adoption into the family of God, marking his new birth. The seal means it cannot be changed.

The “mark on his forehead” is a mark of ownership (Rev. 22:4). It should not be confused with the mark of the beast (in Rev. 14:9). (John 3:3-16; Romans 8:1-4,15,31-39; Galatians 4:5; Ephesians 1:5.)

Simple, Sloth, and Presumption

4. When Christian awoke these men, he warned them of danger to come. What were the three different attitudes represented by these men?
- “Simple said: ‘I see no _____.’”
 - “Sloth said: ‘Yet a little more _____.’”
 - “And Presumption: ‘Every vat (pot) must stand on its _____ bottom.’”

By this he indicated that he believed each person can decide for himself what is true or not – and doesn’t need to listen to the absolute truths of the Bible!

5. How did Formalist and Hypocrisy come into the way?
- “Christian saw Formalist and Hypocrisy _____ the wall.”
 - “He quoted to them, ‘He that climbs up some other way, the same is a _____ and a _____.’”
(John 10:1)

Here is more about why they felt such false confidence.

“They said, that to go to the wicket gate for entrance was by all their countrymen counted too far about; and that therefore their usual way was to make a short cut of it, and to climb over the wall as they had done.

“‘But will it not be counted a trespass against the Lord of the city whither we are bound, thus to violate His revealed will?,’ asked Christian. They told him that, as for that, he needed not to trouble his head thereabouts; ‘And besides,’ said they, ‘if it so be that we get into the way, what does it matter which way we get in?’

“Christian said: ‘I walk by the rule of my Master; you walk by the rude working of your fancies. You are counted thieves already by the Lord of the way. You come in by yourselves without His direction, and shall go by yourselves without His mercy’ (John 14:6).”

The Hill of Difficulty

6. What did Christian say was the reason he took the difficult narrow way up the hill?
- “Better, though difficult, the _____ way to go, than wrong, though easy, where the end is _____.”
7. Formalist and Hypocrisy thought they could make it to heaven in their own way, an “easier” way than God’s way. What was the result for them when they took the paths *Danger* and *Destruction*?

“Jesus saith unto him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.’” – John 14:6

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.” – John 10:1

Christian’s Loss (Sleep in the Daytime)

8. Why did Timorous and Mistrust turn back from the way?
“‘The _____ we go,’ panted Timorous, ‘the more we meet _____.’”
“Timorous” means to be fearful; “Mistrust” means to doubt. The two go together: being fearful inevitably leads to doubt!
9. a. Why had Christian lost his scroll in the arbor?
b. What did it cost Christian to have accidentally left his scroll behind?

Christian also said, “Oh wretched man that I am, that I should sleep in the daytime! in the midst of difficulty that I should so indulge my flesh! How many steps I have taken in vain! and I am made to tread these steps with sorrow, which I might have trod with delight, had it not been for this sinful sleep! I am made to tread these steps thrice over which I needed to have trod but once!” (See 1 Thessalonians 5:7-8; Revelation 2:4-5.)

Lesson 4 Fellowship

The Palace “Beautiful”

1. Our response to the lions is no doubt similar to Christian’s. What were his feelings when he first saw the lions?
“Before him he espied two lions in the way, and was _____ to go on.”

The lions represent the devil’s attacks upon our souls.

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a

roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”

– 1 Peter 5:8.

2. a. What was the reason that the porter told Christian to “Fear not the lions?”

“But Watchful, the porter, cried: ‘Fear not the lions, for they are _____.’”

(See Mark 4:40; 1 Corinthians 10:13.)

- b. What was the reason that the lions were put there?

“They are there for the _____ of faith.”

- c. Read 1 Peter 1:7. What is the result of our successfully enduring difficulties?

“That the _____ of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto _____ and _____ and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.”

“Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.”

– Hebrews 12:11

God allows trials in our lives that we might learn to lean on Him by faith, instead of always relying only on our own resources.

Notice how the lions appeared very threatening to the human eye, yet were totally harmless because of the chains provided by the Lord. God limits the harm that can befall us to only what is useful in God’s eyes for our good, that we might learn to trust Him.

3. What did Watchful say was the reason that the house was built?

“‘The house was built for the _____ and _____ of pilgrims,’ replied Watchful.”

“Watchful” represents faithful pastors, who watch for the souls of their flock and encourage them in the way of the Lord.

Christian Is Welcomed

4. List the names of the four women who greeted Christian.

5. a. What was Christian’s answer when Prudence asked him,

“How do you vanquish annoyances?”

“‘When I think what I saw at the _____,’ answered Christian, ‘that will do it.’”

- b. Read Hebrews 12:1-3. What does the Bible say about how to have victory over annoyances?
 “Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, _____
 _____, the Author and Finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him that endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.”
6. a. What does Christian reveal as the reason that his family would not come with him on his journey?
 “They were afraid of losing this world’s _____.”
- b. *Making It Personal:* How do you honestly feel about personally “losing this world’s delights?”
7. During their conversation at the supper table, what did they tell Christian about the Lord of the Hill?
- a. “All their talk at the table was about the Lord of the Hill... who was a _____.”
They explained about the Lord: “For, as they said, He did it with the loss of much blood; but that which put glory of grace into all He did, was that He did it out of pure love for His country. And besides, there were some of them of the household that said they had seen and spoken with Him since He died on the Cross. They attested that they had it from His own lips, that He is such a lover of poor pilgrims, that the like is not to be found from the east to the west” (John 3:16; Jeremiah 31:3).
This is true fellowship among believers: sharing the wonderful things that the Lord is doing in their lives. True Christian fellowship cannot be distorted into simply “having fun” with others. (See Ephesians 5:11; Philippians 2:1-3.)
- b. And... “had made many pilgrims [into] _____, though [by nature they were] beggars born.”
 (1 Samuel 2:8; Psalm 113:7)

The Lord has saved many from all estates in life, and made them into His saints fit for heaven, “though by nature they were beggars born, and their origin had been the dunghill.” We, therefore, desperately need a Savior outside of ourselves.

Genesis 6:5 “And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”

Jeremiah 17:9 “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?”

Isaiah 64:6 “But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.”

Romans 3:10-18 “As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one... There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

8. What was the purpose for Christian putting on the armor provided for him in the Lord’s armory?

He was “harnessed from head to foot in what was proof [protection] against _____.”

9. Read Ephesians 6:10-18. What does the Bible tell us about the purpose of God’s armor?

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to _____ the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to _____ in the evil day, and having done all, to stand” (6:10-13).

10. What did Christian see “in the distance from the house-top?”

“On the morrow he saw in the distance from the house-top the _____, near his desired haven. It was Immanuel’s Land.”

These hills were a vision of future blessings, meant to encourage the believer in the trials of life. “Immanuel” means “God with us” and is the name given to Jesus Christ (Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23).

Lesson 5 Spiritual Warfare

Christian Fights Apollyon

1. Describe Apollyon.

“He espied a _____
Apollyon coming to meet him.”

Apollyon is a name for the devil. In Greek it means “Destroyer,” and is the name given to the king of the hosts represented by the enemies of God (Revelation 9:11).

2. a. What was the claim that Apollyon made, among his first words to Christian?
“You are one of _____
since you have run away from your king.”
- b. Were these truthful words, or were they designed as deceit to cause Christian to doubt his faith?

Notice that there was an element of truth in what Apollyon said: Christian had run away. But he was running away from the world and to his true King. The devil always tries to deceive us by mixing in a partial truth with a lie.

(See Romans 1:25; Ephesians 4:14; Revelation 12:9.)

- c. *Making It Personal:* Do you ever feel like you are being spiritually attacked? Can you recognize the deceitfulness of the enemy’s thoughts?

- d. What was Christian’s defense against Apollyon’s claim?
“But I have let myself [given myself for service] to the _____.”

Apollyon then accused Christian of being unfaithful to Christ, in order to cause him to doubt—to look to himself instead of relying upon Christ:

“Thou hast already been unfaithful in thy service to him; and how dost thou think to receive wages of him?... Thou didst faint at first setting out, when thou wast almost choked in the Gulf of Despond. Thou didst attempt wrong ways to be rid of thy burden, whereas thou should have stayed till thy Prince had taken it off. Thou didst sinfully sleep and lose thy choice thing. Thou wast also almost persuaded to go back at the sight of the lions. And when thou talk of

thy journey, and of what thou hast heard and seen, thou art inwardly desirous of vain-glory in all that thou sayest or doest.”

Notice Christian’s response to these accusations: “All this is true; and much more which thou hast left out: but the Prince whom I serve and honor is merciful and ready to forgive.” This is the only proper biblical response to accusations: to readily confess that we are not good enough, but that Christ is all our wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption (1 Corinthians 1:30).

3. What caused Christian to despair of life during the battle?
“Then Apollyon, wrestling with him, gave him a dreadful fall. Christian’s sword _____ of his hand.”

Christian’s sword represents the Word of God (Ephesians 6:17). The devil will flee from us when we stand on the truth of the Word of God (James 4:7). (See how Jesus used the Word to resist the devil’s deceptions in Matthew 4:1-11.)

Here is the account of the battle (a battle which rages around true believers): “Then Apollyon straddled quite over the whole breadth of the way, and said, ‘I am void of fear in this matter: prepare thyself to die! for I swear by my infernal den that thou shalt go no farther; here will I spill thy soul.’ And with that he threw a flaming dart at his breast; but Christian had a shield in his hand (Eph. 6:16), with which he caught it, and so prevented the danger of that. Then did Christian draw, for he saw it was time to bestir him; and Apollyon as fast made at him, throwing darts as thick as hail; by the which, notwithstanding all that Christian could do to avoid it, Apollyon wounded him in his head, his hand, and foot. This made Christian give a little back; Apollyon therefore followed his work furiously, and Christian again took courage, and resisted as manfully as he could. This sore combat lasted for above half a day, even till Christian was almost quite spent. For you must know that Christian, by reason of his wounds, grew weaker and weaker.”

4. What were Christian’s final words to Apollyon as Apollyon departed?
“In all these things we are more than _____ through Him that loved us!” (Romans 8:37; James 4:7)

When believers are battling against temptations to sin, they must always remember that Christ has already won the victory over all our enemies at the Cross.

The battle was fierce. But believers must learn to use their spiritual armor:

“Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to

quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God:

“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;” - Ephesians 6:16-18.

The Valley of the Shadow of Death

5. Why were the two running men giving up and turning back?

“We looked before us and saw the Valley, _____ as pitch. It is _____, ’ they answered.”
(See Numbers 13:32; Job 3:5, 10:22.)

6. What lay on either side of the exceeding narrow pathway?

“The pathway was exceeding narrow with a very _____ on the right hand, and a _____ on the left. He sighed bitterly.”

The right side is where the blind lead the blind in every age (Matthew 15:14). The left side is like a marsh of confusion, with no firm foundation to stand on (Psalm 69:14).

7. What weapon was Christian forced to use in this place?

“So Christian was forced to put up his sword, and take to the weapon of _____ .
‘O Lord, I beseech Thee,’ he cried, ‘deliver my soul.’” (Psalm 116:4)

8. What did Christian hear a voice say as he left the Valley?

“Though I walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, I will _____ no _____, for Thou art _____.”
(Psalm 23:4)

The Valley of the Shadow of Death represents the deep fears that Christians sometimes experience in this life. Our daily walk often takes us through deep valleys of worries and difficulties. Rather than to turn back, God wants us to learn to trust Him more. (See Job 9:11; Psalm 69:14; Amos 5:8.)

This is how Christian felt: “I took notice that now poor Christian was so confounded, that he did not know his own voice. And thus I perceived it: just when he was come over against the mouth of the burning pit, one of the wicked ones got behind him, and stepped up softly to him; and whisperingly suggested many grievous blasphemies to him—which he verily thought had proceeded from his own mind. This put Christian more to it than anything that he

met with before, even to think that he should now blaspheme Him that he loved so much before! Yet could he have helped it, he would not have done it; but he had not the discretion neither to stop his ears, nor to know from whence those blasphemies came.”

9. *Making It Personal:* Have you ever experienced times like Christian experienced here, where all seemed darkness, and no matter which way you turned it seemed like there was only more darkness? What have you learned here that will help next time – what weapon should you use?

This weapon is for those whom God has truly saved. If you have not yet come to Christ, do not expect Him to help you out of your difficulties—they may be designed by Him to cause you to cry out to Him for salvation.

Christian Meets Faithful

10. a. Christian ran to meet Faithful. Why did he stumble and fall?
“At this Christian, putting out all his strength, overran Faithful, ...but did not _____
_____, and stumbled.”

“Faithful” means believing, consistently reliable, unchanging attachment to another.

- b. The Bible commands us not to try to live the Christian life alone, but to come along side others. Why?
“He fell and could not rise again until Faithful came to _____ him. Then they went on very _____ together...”

We are designed for fellowship and to encourage one another on the right path (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, Galatians 6:1). We must not try to navigate the Christian life alone!

11. a. How do unbelievers often react to Christians who are sincerely seeking to follow God?
“I heard some of your neighbors _____ speak of you and your desperate journey.”
- b. How do unbelievers respond to those who make a mere profession of faith and then fall away?
“Yet your neighbor Pliable, who came home bedabbled with the dirt of the Slough of Despond, they _____ and _____ as a turncoat.”

12. What was the nature of the woman Wanton like?

“What a _____ she had. She lay at me hard to _____ with her.”

“Wanton” means immoral and lustful. See Proverbs 7 for a description of Wanton.

13. a. What town did Adam the First live in?

“At the foot of Hill Difficulty I met an aged man called Adam the First, who dwelt in the town of _____.”

b. What are the work and wages of Adam the First?

“His work, he said, was many _____, and his wages—that I should be his _____ at last.”

The deceit of our flesh (the old body of sin) is that we can be satisfied in the delights of the world’s pleasures, rather than in God alone. All men inherited this fleshly desire from Adam, when he fell in the Garden of Eden. He turned away from God’s command in order to eat a forbidden fruit, because he thought he knew better than God what he needed to be happy.

As Christians, we no longer belong to the world or its lusts. We are given a new nature by Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17). There are times when the flesh rises up within us to throw us back to old ways. “But greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world” – 1 John 4:4. See also Romans 5:6-21.

c. What were his daughters’ names?

“Marry my daughters: Lust of the _____, Lust of the _____, and _____ of Life.”

The first is the desire for possessions, the second is the desire for pleasure, the third is the desire to be superior to others. (See 1 John 2:15-17.)

14. Rather than following Adam the First, what are we commanded to do instead?

“But looking on his forehead, I saw there written: ‘Put off the _____ man and his _____.’”
(See Colossians 3:9-10.)

Lesson 6 The World

Vanity Fair

1. What counsel did Evangelist (the trusted witness of God’s Truth and ways) give them about Vanity Fair?

“But you are not yet out of gunshot of the _____.

You will come to a town where _____ will strain hard to kill you... Remember to acquit yourselves like men and commit your souls to _____.”

(1 Corinthians 16:13.)

“The name of that town is ‘Vanity;’ and at the town there is a fair kept, called ‘Vanity Fair;’ it is kept all the year long. It bears the name Vanity Fair, because the town where ‘tis kept is lighter than vanity; and also because all that is there sold, or that comes thither is vanity. As is the saying of the wise, ‘All that comes is vanity.’ ...At this fair are all such merchandise sold: as houses, honors, kingdoms; lusts, pleasures, and delights of all sorts—as bodies, souls, silver, gold, pearls, and what not. And moreover, at this fair there is at all times to be deceivers, cheats, games, fools, knaves, and rogues, and that of every kind.”

(See Isaiah 40:17; Eccl. 1:2,14, 2:11,17, 11:8; Rev. 18:10-17.)

2. *Making It Personal:* In your own words, how is Vanity Fair like the state of the world today?

3. What happened when the pilgrims entered Vanity Fair? Why?

“When the pilgrims entered there was a _____, for their clothes and speech were _____.”

Vanity Fair represents the ways of the secular world and all its attractions. While we are living on this earth, we are surrounded by “Vanity Fair.” We must guard our hearts and minds, lest we fall to its temptations. The devil wants us to be “blinded” by the world’s pleasures, so that we are no different than the world and of no effect in our Christian walk and testimony. (Hebrews 11:13-16; 1 Peter 2:11).

4. a. What was a main motive of the people in the town?

“One mockingly chanced to say, ‘What will you _____?’”

(See 1 Timothy 6:10.)

- b. How did the pilgrims' answer this question?
 "They answered gravely, 'We buy the _____.'" (See Proverbs 23:23; Psalm 119:37; Philippians 3:18-20.)
- c. How did the people react to this answer?
 "At that some _____, some taunted, and some called on others to _____ them. There was a great _____."
5. *Making It Personal:*
- a. Why do you think that the people of this worldly town treated the pilgrims so badly?
- b. How are you treated by the world: are you its friend, or do worldly people see you as different?
6. What won several men to the pilgrims' side?
 "The Pilgrims' _____ and _____ won several men to their side. This put the others in a _____." (See Romans 12:17-21; 1 Peter 3:9.)

The Trial of Faithful

7. What were Christian and Faithful accused of? By whom?
 "They were accused of being enemies to the _____ of Vanity Fair. The Judge was the Lord _____."
8. Who were the three witnesses against Faithful, and what were each of their accusations?
- a. " _____ said: 'I heard him affirm that Christianity and the _____ of our town of Vanity were diametrically _____ and not to be reconciled.'"
- b. " _____ said: 'He is a _____.'" "
- c. " _____ said: 'He has reviled our Prince _____, and called you, my lord, an _____ villain!'" "

“Pickthank” refers to those who have no real principle, but who will put on zeal for anyone who may promote their own interests. People of the world are convicted by the truth of Christianity, but they are not willing to bend the knee in repentance from their own sin and in faith on Christ. Their solution to relieve their guilt is to reject and accuse those who hold to God’s ways (Matthew 5:11-12).

9. *Making It Personal:*
- a. Which names of the jury do you think would be most likely to be your friend, rather than to accuse you? Why do you think so?

 - b. In your opinion, was Faithful a victim, or a victor? Explain your answer. (Read also 2 Corinthians 5:6-8.)

*This is how Christian said farewell to Faithful.
 “Well, Faithful, thou hast faithfully professed
 Unto thy Lord, with whom thou shalt be blest,
 When faithless ones, with all their vain delight,
 Are crying out under their hellish plight.
 Sing, Faithful, sing!—and let thy name survive;
 For though they killed thee, thou art yet alive.”*

Mr. By-ends

10. a. Why was Mr. By-ends given that nickname?
 ““Is not your name By-ends?” ‘My nickname, because I had always the luck to jump in my judgment with the _____ of the _____ .”

Mr. By-ends had no convictions of his own, but could be counted on to mold himself to please others in every situation. (See Proverbs 26:25; Romans 16:18.)

This is what Christian told By-ends: “If you will go with us, you must go against the wind and tide [of the world’s ways], the which, I perceive, is against your opinion. You must also own [true] religion in his rags as well as when in his silver slippers; and stand by him too when bound in irons, as well as when he walks the streets with applause.”

- b. Which names of Mr. By-ends' kinsman and three companions do you think best describe his nature (trying to win people's favor by saying or doing what others like)?
- c. *Making It Personal:* How are you like Mr. By-ends?

Lesson 7 False Teachings and Doubts

Mr. By-ends' Companions

1. What reason did Mr. By-ends give for why Christian and Hopeful did not stay with him near the town of Love-gain?
 - a. ““They are so _____ ,’ replied By-ends.”
 - b. ““That is _____ ,’ said Save-all.”

Today two popular words are “tolerance” and “diversity.” Christians are often seen as intolerant because they hold to the absolute truths which God has given in the Bible. Not so many years ago, holding to Bible truths was seen as good; now it is often called bad!

Let us be tolerant of others' differences, but un-accepting of teaching which goes against God's Truth in the Bible.

This is how By-ends described Christian and Hopeful: “They love so much their own notions, and do also so lightly esteem the opinions of others, that even if a man be never so godly, yet, if he jumps not with them in all things, they thrust him quite out of their company.”

2. How did Mr. By-ends explain his own ways?

“Mr. By-ends explained: ‘They conclude it is _____ to journey in all weathers. I am for waiting for wind and tide. They are for _____ their notions against all others. I am for _____.’”
3. What did Mr. Money-love say about how a minister and tradesman should get a better living?

““Should not a minister,’ said Mr. Money-love, ‘get better living

by _____ his principles, or a
tradesman by becoming _____ ?”

Christian Answers Hold-the-World

4. What was the basic point that Christian made about the Pharisees, Judas, and Simon the sorcerer?

(Pharisees: Matthew 6:5-8 and Luke 20:46-47; Judas: John 12:6; Simon: Acts 8:9-24.) (See also John 6:1-14, 22-71.)

5. “The man that takes up religion for the _____
will _____
religion for the world.”

This means that when men profess to be Christians because of something that they think they will gain, then they are not true Christians. They will fall away from Christ when they are faced with a choice between suffering with Christ, and not-suffering in order to keep the things of the world. See Matthew 13:20-22.

The River of God

6. List the items near the River of God which were so refreshing to the pilgrims.

“They drank of its water, which _____
their weary spirits. On either side were green trees which bore all
kinds of _____, and their leaves
were good for _____; also a
meadow, beautiful with lilies, where they lay down and slept
_____.”

The Christian life leads us into both times of difficulty and times of refreshing. We must never doubt in the darkness what God has revealed to us in the light.

By-Path Meadow

7. What was the pilgrims’ motive for crossing over into By-path Meadow?

a. “The pilgrims’ feet were _____
from their travels. How they wished for a
_____ way!”

b. ““Here is the _____
going,’ called Christian.”

8. Who fell into the deep pit, and why was it made there?
“ _____ fell into a deep pit made there on purpose by the Prince of those grounds to catch vain-glorious _____ ; and was dashed into pieces.”

“Vain-glorious” refers to those who think highly of themselves. They have pride in their own abilities so that they are not able to see their weaknesses and the deceits all around them.

Regarding their plight: “Then I thought that it is easier going out of the way when we are in, than going back in when we are out.” Therefore, when we stay on the right path, we spare ourselves many troubles!

Doubting Castle and Giant Despair

9. What reason did Giant Despair give for being justified in taking the pilgrims as his captives?

““You have _____ on _____ grounds,” said the giant, “so you must come along with me.””

When we leave the right and narrow way of our King, we immediately are in the enemy’s territory, and the result is much trouble for our souls!

10. Describe the place where they were imprisoned.

“There he put them into a very _____ dungeon, _____ and _____. They lay from Wednesday morning to Saturday night without one bit of _____ or drop of drink or _____. They were in a sorry state.” (Psalm 88:18)

Notice that Jesus is the Bread of Life (John 6:35), the Living Water (7:38), and the Light of the World (8:12). This dark dungeon is the result of taking our eyes off of Jesus and leaving the narrow way.

11. What happened after the giant beat them so fearfully?

“Then he left them. All that day they spent in _____ and lamentations.”

“Lamentations” are deep sorrows.

12. *Making It Personal:* Notice the advice of Giant Despair’s wife.

- She first said, “Beat them without mercy.”
- Then she said to tell them to do away with themselves!
- Then she said, “Show them the bones and skulls of those you have already dispatched.”

- a. Why do you think that Giant Despair continued to do these things, instead of just ending their lives right away?

“Despair” means hopelessness. “Diffidence” means doubt of the power, ability, sincerity, intention, or goodness of another—in this case, to doubt these things about God.

- b. Have you ever experienced “despair” or “diffidence?” What is the only solution to despair?

13. What do you think was the turning point for the pilgrims’ to gain their freedom? Fill in the blanks, and then choose one of the following reasons (1, 2, or 3), and explain why you chose it.

1). (When the giant had gone) “Hopeful _____ Christian. ‘How valiant you have been,’ he said. ‘Let us exercise a little more _____.’”

2). “About midnight they began to _____ and continued till break of day.”

3). “Now, a little before day, good Christian suddenly broke out passionately. ‘What a fool I am! I have a key in my bosom called _____ that will, I am persuaded, open any lock in the Castle.’”

- a. Circle one: 1 2 3
- b. Explain why you chose it.

The Promises of God are given to us in the Bible for us to remember in times of trouble. They give us assurance of hope! It makes no sense to lie in the stinking dungeon of our own despair, when the key to our liberty is as near as the promises of God!

14. Making It Personal:

- a. Did the pilgrims make progress on their journey by way of By-path Meadow, or did they have to retrace their steps to start over again at the exact point of departure?
- b. How is this true of your own experience, when you have strayed away from the narrow path of the Lord?

Lesson 8 Relationship, Not Religion

Memories of Faithful (Hopeful shares his conversion)

After their escape, Hopeful begins to share with Christian his earlier encounter with Faithful, by whose witness he came to know the Lord.

1. What did Hopeful say about paying off his debt?
 - a. “I thought, ‘If a man runs into debt but later _____ his way, the old debt still _____ . I by my sins have run into God’s debt and my reforming now will _____ pay it off.’”
 - b. “He told me that, unless I could obtain the _____ of a man who had never _____ , not all the righteousness of the world could save me.”

Do you see how these two thoughts go together. All the new good deeds you might do will never make up for the fact that you have broken God’s law in the past (and inevitably continue to do so). Your earlier debt still stands. (God has a holy and perfect standard, because He is holy and perfect.)

2. What does Hopeful tell us is the solution to this problem (where our breaking of God’s law still stands against us, no matter how many good works we might try to do)?

“The Lord _____ is the Mighty God and died for me, to whom His doings and worthiness should be imputed [given into my account] if I _____ in Him.”

(See Psalm 95:6; Jeremiah 29:12-13; Hebrews 4:16.)

3. This is what Hopeful prayed.

“God be merciful to me a sinner, and make me to know and believe in Jesus Christ; for I see that if His righteousness had not been, or if I have not faith in that righteousness, I am utterly cast away. Lord, I have heard that Thou art a merciful God, and hast ordained that Thy Son Jesus Christ should be the Savior of the world: and moreover, that Thou art willing to bestow Him upon such a poor sinner as I am (and I am a sinner indeed). Lord, take therefore this opportunity, and magnify Thy grace in the salvation of my soul, through Thy Son Jesus Christ, Amen.’ And I said it with my whole heart.”

Making It Personal: Have you ever sought God like this? If so, how and when. If not, why not?

4. a. What did Jesus reveal to the understanding of Hopeful at the moment of his salvation?

“He looked on me and said: ‘My grace is _____ for thee.’”

(2 Corinthians 12:9; Isaiah 55:11)

God’s “Grace” is His loving-kindness to bring us to Himself, even when we do not deserve it. Jesus tells us that our salvation is all by His grace, with none of our good works mixed in to somehow earn it from God. His grace is “sufficient”—it always accomplishes its purpose. (See Ephesians 2:8-9; Isaiah 55:11.)

- b. What was the result in Hopeful’s attitudes afterwards?

“The beauty of Jesus made me love a _____ life and _____ to fight for Him.”

Ignorance Again

5. How did Ignorance respond to Christian’s question, “How do things stand between God and your soul now?”

“‘I hope well,’ said Ignorance, ‘my _____ tells me so.’”

6. a. What was Christian’s response? Why did he think the testimony of our ‘heart’ was of no value?

“Unless the _____ of _____ witnesses it, other testimony is of no value.”

The Bible is the only reliable revelation of God to us. What it says about salvation must first of all be true for us. If it is true for us, then our hearts will rejoice. But our hearts can be deceived into thinking we are OK with God, especially when we are depending upon religious duties, and are not truly saved.

- b. “The Word of God says: ‘There is _____ righteous’ and... (Rom. 3:10)

- c. ‘The imagination of man’s heart is _____ from his youth.’”

(Genesis 8:21; See also Gen. 6:5; Rom. 3:9-18,23, 8:6.)

7. How did Ignorance reply when Christian said, “When we have sense to think thus of ourselves, our thoughts are good, being according to the Word of God?”
“‘I will _____
that my heart is thus bad,’ replied Ignorance.”

8. a. What did Christian say to Ignorance about the Word of God?
“The Word of God says that a man’s ways are _____ perverse. Now, when a man thinks sensibly of his own ways, his heart in _____ accepts that judgment.”
(See Psalm 125:5; Proverbs 2:15; Romans 3:9-18.)

The “natural” man is the way we are without Christ. We are born with a tendency toward selfishness, always thinking about what we want or what is good for us. And it begins at birth—just look at a baby who is hungry, or a toddler who sees another’s toy!

It requires humility to accept that we cannot earn God’s favor by our good deeds or anything that we might “do,” because in that case we have to depend totally on God.

b. What did Ignorance insist on in response?
“But Ignorance insisted that God would accept him because of his _____.”

c. Rather than his actions, what did Christian say “must be won over to God” instead?
“Christian, remembering his own experience at the Cross, replied: ‘It is not your actions but your _____ that must be won over to God.’”

It is so much easier to try to do something to be accepted by God. Then we can have pride in a feeling of accomplishment and being in control, and we put God in the position of owing us salvation and forgiveness of sins. But to give our hearts to God means we bow to Him in loving desire to follow after Him.

This is what Christian told Ignorance in explanation: “This faith of yours is deceitful, even such as will leave you under wrath in the day of God Almighty. For true justifying faith puts the soul (when sensible of its lost condition by the law) upon flying for refuge unto Christ’s righteousness. This righteousness of His is not an act of grace by which He makes thy obedience accepted with God; but rather Christ’s personal obedience to the law in doing and suffering for us what is required of us, and this is accepted by God. This righteousness of Christ, I say, true faith accepts; under the skirt of

which, the soul being shrouded, and by it presented as spotless before God, it is accepted, and acquitted from condemnation.”

9. “‘There are plenty in our town in his condition,’ Hopeful commented, ‘whole families, whole streets.’”
- a. How did Christian respond?
“Have they at no time, do you think,
_____ and
consequent fears that their state is _____?”
- b. *Making It Personal:* Have you had these feelings?
10. a. How did Christian answer this, his own question?
“I think they may, but desperately seek to
_____ them.”
(Proverbs 14:12, 21:2.)
Many people do this so that they will not have to feel uncomfortable, and so they will not have to humble themselves. They do this by seeking worldly entertainment, pleasure, possessions, and achievement, to try to make their lives “meaningful” apart from Jesus Christ.
- b. *Making It Personal:* Have you responded this way to your own feelings of guilt for doing wrong? Why?
11. What do these friends say to each other about godly fear and wisdom?
- a. “Hopeful agreed. ‘As you say, fear tends to be good for men. It makes them _____ to go on pilgrimage.’”
- b. “‘The fear of the Lord,’ Christian corrected, ‘That is the _____ of wisdom.’”
(See Job 28:28; Psalm 111:10; Proverbs 1:7, 9:10.)
- c. “The right sort of fear is caused by convictions which _____ the soul to hold fast to *Christ*. It begins and continues a great reverence for God, His _____, and His _____.”

12. *Making It Personal:*

- a. Do you fear God?

- b. Have you demonstrated a “great reverence for God, His Word, and His ways?” How?

Lesson 9 Entering Glory!

The Golden City (as seen from the Country of Beulah)

1. “By this time the pilgrims were entering into the country of Beulah.” What are some of the characteristics of this country?
 - a. “Here they heard continually the _____ of birds and saw _____ appear.”
 - b. “In this country the sun shines _____ and day.”
2. The country of Beulah is obviously refreshing and a joy to be in. But what are we told about where Beulah is?
 - a. “...for it is _____ the Valley of the Shadow of Death, and out of reach of Giant Despair.”
 - b. “Here they were _____ of the city they were going to.”
 - c. “...because it was on the _____ of heaven.”

The Country of Beulah is a picture of Christian maturity, where the saint has learned to walk with God, to say ‘No’ to temptation, to reject self-focused doubts about God’s power and goodness. The result is abiding peace and joy, not as the world gives, but as only God gives (John 14:27).

Here is how Beulah is further described: “Now, as they walked in this land, they had more rejoicing than in parts more remote from the Kingdom to which they were bound; and drawing near to the City, they had yet a more perfect view thereof.”

3. *Making It Personal:* Do you desire, above all else in your life, to dwell in this “Country of Beulah?” Explain why or why not.
4. What does the gardener tell us about why gardens and vineyards were planted?
 “They saw the gardener, who told them that the gardens and vineyards were planted for the King’s _____ and for the solace of _____.”

The Lord Jesus, King of all true Christians, delights to bless and comfort His children. “Solace” means to ease discomfort.

Please notice how glorious is the City, even in the distant view of the pilgrims while still on their earthly journey. The closer we get to God, the more wonderful and glorious He appears to us, the more clear our view of heavenly things, and the more desirable is it to be with Him there. (See Ephesians 1:3-14)

The River of Death

5. a. What are we told about the River of Death?
 “But there was no _____ over it, and the river was very _____. There was no way to _____ the river.”

The River of Death is a picture of physical death, to which every human being is subject. Truly, there is no escape from it; everyone must pass through it.

- b. “The men said, “You will find it deeper or shallower as you _____ in the King.”

This describes how different people may experience the same thing in different ways, depending upon one’s degree of faith cultivated in time with God. This is especially true of death itself.

6. Describe the two different experiences of Christian and Hopeful in the River.
- a. “Christian began to _____ and cried out.”
- b. But Hopeful said, ‘Be of good cheer, my brother. I feel the bottom and it is _____.’”
 (Psalm 73:4-5)
- c. “Then a great darkness and _____ fell upon Christian, so that he could not see before him. He

_____ that he would die in the river and never enter in at the gate.”

d. “He was troubled with apparitions of hobgoblins and _____.”

7. One saint has great faith; another has struggles of faith. What did Hopeful say was the reason why Christian was allowed to have such troubles?

a. “‘My brother,’ cried Hopeful, ‘these troubles are no sign that God has forsaken you, but are sent to _____ you.’”

b. “Be of good cheer! Jesus Christ makes you _____.”

(See Isaiah 43:2; Luke 8:50.)

Sometimes we think that when we have troubles, it is because God has left us. But this is never true.

To “try” you means to put you to the test, so that you can see the measure of your faith, so that you might see your need, and as a result so that you will look to Christ more fully and completely. You learn to trust Him and Him alone as you experience failure in trusting anything else, including yourself. (Philippians 3:8)

8. What was their remaining experience in the River after they “both took courage.”

“Then they both took courage and presently found ground to _____ upon, and the rest of the river was but _____ . Thus they got over.”

The Heavenly Jerusalem

9. Who met them on the other side of the river?

“Upon the bank of the river, on the other side, two _____ men greeted them, saying, ‘We are _____ spirits.’”

To “minister” means to serve another. Please notice that these two saints were never alone after crossing over.

10. Describe what the pilgrims learned about the beauty of the place, and about what they shall do there.

a. “‘The beauty of the place is _____,’ their companions told them. ‘It is _____, the Heavenly Jerusalem.’”

- b. ‘What shall we do in that holy place?’ they asked.”
 (Hebrews 11:13-16, 12:22-24)
 “You shall _____ of the
 never-fading fruits of the tree of life and not know
 _____ again, for there you
 shall see the Holy One as He _____.”
 (Isaiah 65:16; 1 John 3:2; Revelation 2:7, 3:4, 21:14)

Here is what else it was said they would do in Heaven.

“You must there receive the comfort of all your toil, and have joy for all your sorrow; you must reap what you have sown, even the fruit of all your prayers, and tears, and sufferings for the King by the way. In that place you must wear crowns of gold, and enjoy the perpetual sight and visions of the Holy One. There, also, you shall serve Him continually with praise, with shouting, and thanksgiving; whom you desired to serve in the world, though with much difficulty because of the infirmity of your flesh. There your eyes shall be delighted with seeing, and your ears with hearing the pleasant voice of, the Mighty One.”

(Gal. 6:7; 1 Thes. 4:13-16; Jude 14; Dan. 7:9-10; 1 Cor. 6:2-3)

11. What greeting did the heavenly host give as they came out to meet the pilgrims, when they drew near to the gate?

“The (heavenly) host shouted, ‘ _____
 are they which are called to the marriage supper of the
 _____.’”

(Revelation 19:9; see also Luke 14:12-24)

The “marriage supper” is a picture of our Lord Jesus Christ joining Himself to His saints in everlasting covenant union, to enjoy intimate fellowship forever.

12. At the Journey’s End, what was written over the gate of the city in letters of gold?

“Then they came to the gate and saw written over it in letters of gold, ‘ _____ are they that do His commandments. They _____
 _____ through the gates of the city.’”

(Revelation 22:14)

13. What did the King read and say *before* opening the gates to them?

a. “Then each of the pilgrims gave in the _____ which he had received in the beginning. These were carried to the King.”

b. “When the King had read the _____, He said, ‘Where are the men?’ He was answered, ‘They are

standing without the gate.’ The King then commanded to open the gate. ‘The _____ nation which guards the truth,’ He said, ‘may enter in.’” (Isaiah 26:2)

The “certificates” represent our “new birth” certificates, our adoption papers, our salvation which is sealed by the Holy Spirit.

The “nation” is a “tribe,” or collective term for true believers. They in themselves are not righteous, but Jesus Christ is made all their righteousness at the moment of salvation.

(1 Corinthians 1:30)

14. Describe the pilgrims’ welcome into the *City of the Sun*.
- “As Christian and Hopeful entered the gate they were transfigured and had raiment put on that shone like _____.”
 - “Then I heard in my dream that all the bells in the city rang again for _____.”
(See Luke 15:3-10.)
15. What did the pilgrims sing out in response?
“And the men themselves sang with a loud voice, ‘Blessing and _____, and _____, and _____, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever.’”
(Revelation 5:13-14)
16. Describe the city itself as revealed through the gates.
“As the gates were opened, I looked in after them, and behold, the City shone like the _____. The streets were paved with _____ and in them many men walked singing _____.”
(Revelation 21:18,21)

Lesson 10 The Fate of Ignorance

The Fate of Ignorance

- How did Ignorance get across the River of Death?
“I saw Ignorance come to the river side. He soon got over, for one _____, a ferryman, helped him

Conviction of Sin

- a. City of Destruction
- b. Christian
- c. Evangelist
- d. Obstinate
- e. Pliable

Seeking the Savior

- f. Slough of Despond
- g. Worldly Wiseman
- h. Legality in the village of Morality
- i. The Wicket Gate
- j. The Straight Way

Salvation

- k. The Cross
- l. Christian's new coat ("raiment")
- m. Formalist
- n. Hill of Difficulty
- o. Timorous
- p. Arbor of sleeping
- q. Christian's "roll"

Fellowship

- r. Palace Beautiful
- s. Prudence

Spiritual Warfare

- t. Apollyon
- u. Valley of the Shadow of Death
- v. Faithful

The World

- w. Vanity Fair
- x. Hate-good
- y. Envy
- z. Hopeful

False Teachings and Doubts

- aa. Mr. By-ends
- bb. Hold-the-World
- cc. River of God
- dd. By-path Meadow
- ee. Giant Despair
- ff. Doubting Castle
- gg. Key of Promise

Relationship, not “Religion”

hh. Ignorance from Conceit

Entering Glory!

ii. Country of Beulah

jj. Shining Ones

kk. River of Death

ll. Celestial City

mm. Christian’s and Hopeful’s Certificates

*Well then sinner, what sayest thou? Where is thy heart?
Wilt thou run? Art thou resolved to forsake all?
Get into the way; run apace and hold out to the end;
and the Lord give thee a prosperous journey!
Farewell. – John Bunyan*

*Thank you for doing this study.
Please write for your next course.
May you be encouraged to continue
your studies of God’s Word.*

Appendix One: Comments about Pilgrim's Progress

Perhaps, next to the first publishers of the gospel of the blessed God, these sayings were never more strongly exemplified in any single individual (at least in this, or the last century) than in the conversion, ministry and writings of that eminent servant of Jesus Christ, Mr. John Bunyan. His *Pilgrim's Progress* in particular is read with the greatest pleasure. – *George Whitefield*

I began to expound *The Pilgrim's Progress* in our meetings on Tuesday evenings; and though we have been almost seven months traveling with the pilgrim, we have not yet left the *Palace Beautiful*; but I believe we shall set off for the *Valley of Humiliation* in about three weeks. I find this book so full of matter, that I can seldom go through more than a page or half a page at a time. – *John Newton*

Next to the Bible, the book that I value most is John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*. I believe I have read it through at least a hundred times. It is a volume of which I never seem to tire; and the secret of its freshness is that it is so largely compiled from the Scriptures. It is really biblical teaching in the form of a simple yet very striking allegory.

Read anything of his, and you will see that it is almost like reading the Bible itself. He had studied our Authorized Version... till his whole being was saturated with Scripture... Prick him anywhere, and you will find that his blood is "bibline," the very essence of the Bible flows from him. He cannot speak without quoting a text, for his soul is full of the Word of God.

– *Charles Spurgeon*

That tenderest and most theological of books, *The Pilgrim's Progress* of John Bunyan, is pulsating with life in every word.

– *J. Gresham Machen*

I know of no book, the Bible excepted as above all comparison, which I could so safely recommend as teaching and enforcing the whole saving truth according to the mind that was in Christ Jesus, as *The Pilgrim's Progress*.

– *Coleridge*