

# **PILGRIM'S PROGRESS WORKBOOK** for kids

*A Study Guide for Pilgrim's Progress in Today's English*

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## Volume I: Christian's Journey

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**SOLUTIONS MANUAL**

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*Catechism for Kids*

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*Pilgrim's Progress* is an **allegory**. An **allegory** is a story which illustrates important concepts. In *Pilgrim's Progress*, people are named according to the characteristics they represent.



## CHARACTERS

**What do these characters' names mean?**

Christian: FOLLOWER OF CHRIST \_\_\_\_\_

Evangelist: A PREACHER OF THE GOSPEL \_\_\_\_\_

**Answer the questions below:**

1. What was Christian reading that made him sad? \_\_\_\_\_

HE WAS READING A BOOK. \_\_\_\_\_

2. What was Christian carrying on his back? HE CARRIED A BURDEN. \_\_\_\_\_

3. What did Christian fear? HE FEARED GOD'S JUDGMENT \_\_\_\_\_

4. How did Christian's wife and children respond when he told them how frightened he was?

THEY THOUGHT HE WAS LOSING HIS MIND. \_\_\_\_\_

5. Whom did Christian meet? HE MET EVANGELIST.
6. Did Christian's wife and children go with him to the gate? NO



## SYMBOLISM

Christian's burden symbolizes his sin. Christian feels weighed down by the guilt of his own wickedness. Christian reads a book, which represents the law of God. People may not realize that they are doing something wrong until they begin to understand God's law. For example, a boy who cheats on his homework may not think very much about whether he is doing something wrong until he goes to church and hears his Sunday School teacher explain that cheating is a sin. Then he may be very worried. He may remember all the times he has cheated on his homework. The boy could wonder, "Have I made God angry? Is God going to punish me for all the bad things I have done?"



In the story, Christian realizes that he has sinned. He wants to be saved from his sin, but he does not know what to do. He knows that he has done wrong and that God must be angry with him, but he does not know how to be saved. Fortunately, he meets Evangelist. Evangelist tells him to leave the City of Destruction and go to the gate. The gate represents the beginning of a new life in Christ. (Opening a gate demonstrates an intention to go somewhere new.)

Christian's wife and children do not want him to follow God, but Christian knows he must do the right thing.



## BIBLE READING

The apostle Paul tells us that understanding God's laws can make us realize how sinful we are:

What shall we say, then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! Indeed, I would not have known what sin was except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, "Do not covet." (Romans 7:7)

Paul goes on later in the same chapter to describe the agony which overtakes him when he considers how much he has sinned.

What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? (Romans 7:24)

The word **wretched** indicates misery. Paul describes how miserable he is when he considers how much he breaks God's law. He would not have even realized how much he sinned unless he had read God's rules (such as the Ten Commandments). Once he understood the law, he realized how many things he was doing wrong. He knew that he needed to be rescued from his miserable and sinful condition.

## CONCLUSION

In our story, Christian (like the apostle Paul) is horrified by his sin. He needs a Savior.

Who is our Savior? JESUS

**PART 2: OBSTINATE AND PLIABLE  
READ PAGES 13-16.**

**DO YOU REMEMBER?**

Christian was carrying a BURDEN on his back and  
reading a book. The book represents the LAW OF GOD.

When he read the book, Christian realized that he was a sinner, and he  
became afraid of God's judgment. He met EVANGELIST  
who told him to go to the GATE.



**CHARACTERS**

**What do these characters' names mean?**

Obstinate: STUBBORN

Pliable: EASILY CHANGED AND INFLUENCED

**Answer the questions below:**

1. Why did Obstinate and Pliable chase Christian? THEY WANTED  
TO BRING HIM BACK.
2. Did Christian agree to go back with them? NO
3. What did Christian suggest they should do? HE SUGGESTED THAT  
THEY GO WITH HIM TO THE GATE.
4. How did Obstinate and Pliable respond when Christian suggested that they go with him?  
OBSTINATE REFUSED, BUT PLIABLE WENT WITH CHRISTIAN.
5. How did Christian know that the words in the book were true?  
IT WAS WRITTEN BY GOD WHO CANNOT LIE.
6. What did Pliable want Christian to talk about? HEAVEN

**SYMBOLISM**

Christian's neighbors symbolize the reactions many people have when they hear that someone has become a Christian. Some people (like Obstinate)

to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. (Matthew 13:18-23)

In our story, Obstinate is like the seed which was sown along the path. Obstinate heard what Christian said, but he did not understand or accept it. Pliable accepted it quickly and very cheerfully. However, Jesus explains in the parable that not everyone who seems to accept the gospel will persevere. Sometimes people claim to want to obey God for a while, but when difficulties arise or life becomes very busy, they lose interest.



People who are truly chosen by God always **persevere**. They keep going, even amid struggles and hardships.

## CONCLUSION

Suppose you tell someone that you believe in God, and they respond, "You must be CRAZY!"

This person is like OBSTINATE in our story.

Did Jesus know that some people would not accept his Word? YES



**REMEMBER!** Those who are chosen by God will **accept** his Word and **persevere** in faith even when life is difficult.



**PART 3: THE SLOUGH OF DESPOND**  
**READ PAGES 17-19**

**DO YOU REMEMBER?**

Christian was running toward the GATE, and two neighbors followed him. Their names were OBSTINATE and PLIABLE. Christian tried to convince them to go with him. OBSTINATE refused and returned home, but PLIABLE decided to go with CHRISTIAN, because he liked the idea of going to HEAVEN.



**CHARACTERS**

**What does this character's name mean?**

Help: PROVIDING ASSISTANCE

**Answer the questions below:**

1. Why did Christian and Pliable fall into the Slough of Despond?

THEY WERE CARELESS.

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2. Why did Pliable go back home? HE WAS OFFENDED AND ANGRY.

3. Christian asked Help why the Slough of Despond had not been repaired so that people would not fall in. What did Help tell him?

THE KING HAD TRIED TO REPAIR IT, BUT IT SWALLOWED

---

UP ALL TRUTH POURED INTO IT.

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4. Was there a way around the Slough of Despond? YES, THE STEPS

5. How did the other people back in the City of Destruction react when Pliable returned home?

SOME SAID HE WAS WISE, BUT OTHERS SAID HE WAS A

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COWARD. THEN THEY MOCKED CHRISTIAN.

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## PART 4: WORLDLY WISEMAN

### READ PAGES 19-22

### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Christian and Pliable were not careful, and so they both fell into the

SLOUGH of DESPOND. Pliable went back home.

Christian was pulled out by HELP, who told him that there were

STEPS to help people get through the swamp without falling in.

PLIABLE was laughed at for returning home, but then

everyone spoke against CHRISTIAN.



### CHARACTERS

**What do these characters' names mean?**

Worldly Wiseman: ONE WHO IS WISE IN THE EYES OF THE WORLD

Legality: ADHERING TO THE LAW

**Answer the questions below:**

1. Whom did Christian meet? WORLDLY WISEMAN

2. Did Worldly Wiseman think Evangelist gave Christian good advice?

NO, HE SAID EVANGELIST HAD LED CHRISTIAN INTO DANGER.

3. Where did Worldly Wiseman suggest that Christian should go?

TO THE HOME OF LEGALITY IN THE TOWN OF MORALITY

4. What did Worldly Wiseman suggest that Legality could do to help Christian?

HE SAID THAT LEGALITY COULD RELIEVE CHRISTIAN OF

HIS BURDEN

5. Did Christian take Worldly Wiseman's suggestion? YES

6. Where did the new road lead? TO MOUNT SINAI

## CONCLUSION

If someone says that you can be good and happy without God, are they telling the truth?

NO. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO BE GOOD AND HAPPY WITHOUT GOD.

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What do each of us have which prevents us from being good, even when we want to be good?

WE ALL HAVE A SINFUL NATURE.

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Was the Worldly Wiseman really wise? NO



**REMEMBER!** We cannot save ourselves from sin. We need Jesus.

**PART 5: EVANGELIST AGAIN**  
**READ PAGES 22-26**

**DO YOU REMEMBER?**

Christian was met by WORLDLY WISEMAN, who

told him that he could have his burden removed by LEGALITY.

Christian listened and turned away from the GATE, but soon he

came to MOUNT SINAI. Terrified by the fire and

danger of the mountain, Christian stopped.



**CHARACTERS AND PLACES**

**What does this character's name mean?**

Civility POLITENESS AND COURTESY

**What does this town's name mean?**

Morality GOOD BEHAVIOR

**Answer the questions below:**

1. What happened when Christian started out in the direction suggested by Worldly Wiseman?

HE CAME TO A DANGEROUS ROAD AT MOUNT SINAI.

2. Why did Christian stop? HE WAS AFRAID OF THE MOUNTAIN.

3. Who found Christian? EVANGELIST

4. In the last paragraph of the chapter, Evangelist said that Christian had committed two sins. What were those sins?

HE STOPPED GOING TOWARD THE GATE, AND HE STARTED

IN THE WRONG DIRECTION.

5. Did God forgive Christian when he repented? YES



## SYMBOLISM

When Christian meets Evangelist again, he immediately feels ashamed for turning away from the gate. He knows that he was wrong to listen to Worldly Wiseman. Evangelist explains that Legality and Civility cannot help Christian. He declares them cheats and shams. He explains that merely

heaven. God makes the way clear, but it is also very narrow. Only in Jesus do we have salvation.

The Bible relates the story of a disciple named Thomas who asked Jesus about the right way:

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:5-6)

When we follow Jesus, we are on the right path. Whenever we turn away from Jesus, we are on the wrong path. The path is not wide. There are no other gods or philosophies which will give us eternal life. Salvation is found in Christ alone.

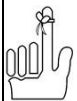
## CONCLUSION

Suppose someone tells you, "You can follow the Bible, and that is fine for you. I am going to follow my own beliefs, and I will go to heaven also."

Is this true? NO

How do you know that salvation is only through Jesus? GOD TOLD US

THIS, AND HE DOES NOT LIE.



**REMEMBER!** Salvation is found only in Christ. Other religions and philosophies will not bring someone into the right way.



## CHAPTER 2: CHRISTIAN RETURNS TO THE GOOD WAY

### PART 1: THE GATE AND GOODWILL READ PAGES 27-30.

#### DO YOU REMEMBER?

While Christian was standing near Mount SINAI,  
he saw EVANGELIST coming toward him. Evangelist told him  
that he had been wrong to take the advice of WORLDLY  
WISEMAN. Christian repented and Evangelist told him  
that God would FORGIVE him.



#### CHARACTERS

What do these characters' names mean?

Goodwill KINDNESS

Beelzebub SATAN

**Answer the questions below:**

1. What was written on the wicket gate? KNOCK, AND IT SHALL

BE OPENED UNTO YOU.

2. Who opened the gate for Christian? GOODWILL

3. Why did Goodwill pull Christian quickly through the gate?

TO KEEP HIM SAFE FROM BEELZEBUB'S ARROWS

4. Goodwill sent Christian to follow a path. How would Christian know which was the right one?

THE RIGHT ONE WAS STRAIGHT AND NARROW.



## SYMBOLISM

The wicket gate symbolizes Jesus Christ. Goodwill is also a symbol of Christ. He opens the door for those who come seeking God. The church does not turn anyone away because God does not turn them away. When people sincerely seek God, it is a sign that the Holy Spirit has changed their hearts. If

## CONCLUSION

If someone comes to church asking to learn about God, would God ever turn that person away?

NO, GOD ACCEPTS EVERYONE WHO TRULY SEEKS HIM.

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Is it hard to know what God wants us to do? NO

How do we know what God wants us to do? GOD TELLS US IN

THE BIBLE.

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**REMEMBER!** Anyone who sincerely repents and asks God for salvation will receive it. He is a kind Father. He opens the door to all who knock.

## PART 2: THE INTERPRETER'S HOUSE (I)

### READ PAGES 31-35.

### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Christian arrived at the GATE and knocked.

GOODWILL answered. He invited Christian to come inside.

Then he pulled Christian quickly to keep him safe from BEELZEBUB's

arrows. Goodwill showed Christian a PATH which would

take him to the CELESTIAL CITY.



### CHARACTERS

**What do these characters' names mean?**

Interpreter A PERSON WHO EXPLAINS

Courage BRAVERY

Passion STRONG DESIRE

Patience WAITING CALMLY

**Answer the questions below:**

1. Who was the first person Interpreter showed to Christian?

A PICTURE OF A MAN WHO PLEADED WITH SINNERS

2. In the second scene, a man tried to sweep a parlor but only stirred up the dust. What did the maid do?

SHE PUT WATER ON THE DUST SO THAT IT COULD BE

SWEPT UP.

3. What were the names of the children in the next vision?

PASSION AND PATIENCE

4. In the last vision from our reading assignment, what did Courage do to get in the door?

HE FOUGHT HIS WAY INSIDE THE PALACE.



## BIBLE READING

There are many Bible verses we could read about these things, but for now, let's focus on one. The epistle of Jude ends with this **doxology** (praise to God):

To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy — to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen. (Jude 1:24-25)

Like the fire burning brighter even when Satan was trying to put it out, the faith in our hearts rises even amid all Satan's attacks and life's difficulties. God is able to keep us from falling. He gives us courage to persevere.

## CONCLUSION

Salvation is completely a gift from God. Our own efforts cannot save us. Which of the Interpreter's stories illustrates this?

THE MAID PUTTING WATER ON THE DUST TO SWEEP IT UP.

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God does not save us and then leave us. He provides us with the strength to persevere in faith. Which of the Interpreter's stories illustrates this?

THE FIRE BURNING AND NOT BEING QUENCHED

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## PART 3: THE INTERPRETER'S HOUSE (II)

READ PAGES 35–38.

### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Christian followed the path to the INTERPRETER 's House.

The INTERPRETER showed Christian stories to help him

learn about faith. The first lesson was a PICTURE of a man who

would teach him. The second vision was a man sweeping a ROOM ,

and a MAID put water on the dust to make it settle. The third

story concerned two children named PASSION and

PATIENCE . The fourth was a FIRE that would

not burn out. Then he showed Christian a man named COURAGE

fighting his way into a PALACE .



## CHARACTERS

What do these characters' names mean?

Interpreter \_\_\_\_\_ A PERSON WHO EXPLAINS

Hopeless \_\_\_\_\_ WITHOUT HOPE

Loveworld \_\_\_\_\_ LOVES THE WORLD

Answer the questions below:

1. Where was Hopeless? \_\_\_\_\_ IN A CAGE

2. Why was Hopeless sad? \_\_\_\_\_ HE COULD NOT REPENT

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What dream did Loveworld have? \_\_\_\_\_ HE DREAMED ABOUT THE

DAY OF JUDGMENT.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Lamb! For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can withstand it?" (Revelation 6:15-17)

This Bible passage speaks of kings, princes, generals, rich and powerful people hiding in the caves and among the rocks alongside everyone else. Earthly power will not matter when people see God. The wicked will never stand against God's judgment. They will run and hide, asking that even the rocks would fall on them to hide them from God.

## CONCLUSION

Read Matthew 16:25-26. Copy it here:

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FOR WHOEVER WANTS TO SAVE THEIR LIFE WILL LOSE IT, BUT

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WHOEVER LOSES THEIR LIFE FOR ME WILL FIND IT . WHAT GOOD

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IS IT FOR SOMEONE TO GAIN THE WHOLE WORLD YET FORFEIT

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THEIR SOUL? OR WHAT CAN ANYONE GIVE IN EXCHANGE FOR

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THEIR SOUL?



**REMEMBER!** Nothing is more important than salvation. There is nothing on earth worth losing our souls.

## CHAPTER 3: JOURNEY TOWARD THE HOUSE BEAUTIFUL

### PART 1: CHRISTIAN LOSES HIS BURDEN READ PAGES 39-40.

#### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Christian saw two last warning stories at the INTERPRETER's  
House. A man called HOPELESS had lost hope of being  
saved. He did not want to REPENT of his sins. Another man  
LOVEWORLD was troubled by a dream about God's judgment at  
the end of the WORLD.

#### Answer the questions below:

1. Where did Christian finally lose his burden? HE LOST HIS  
BURDEN AT THE CROSS.

2. Why did Christian weep? HE WEPT FOR JOY.

3. What did the celestial beings give to Christian? THEY GAVE HIM

CLEAN CLOTHES, A MARK ON HIS FOREHEAD, AND A BOOK.



## SYMBOLISM

Christian finally loses his burden of sin when he sees the cross. When he understands that Jesus died on the cross and paid the penalty for his sins, he realizes that he does not have to bear the punishment for sin. His old sinful nature died, and he has been raised up to a new life in Christ.

Christian receives new clothes, a mark on his forehead, and a book from the celestial beings. These represent new life in Jesus. When we are forgiven and accepted through Christ, God adopts us as His children. He makes our hearts new and clean. Baptism marks us as people who belong to God.



## BIBLE READING

In the book of Romans, Paul talks about dying to our old sinful nature and rising to new life in Christ:

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with

him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. (Romans 6:1-10)

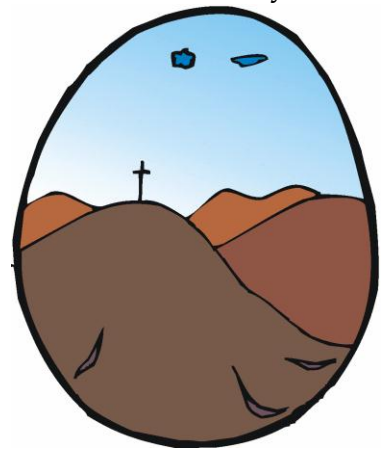
Paul explains that we are saved by God's grace to us. God washes us clean from sin so that it is like we never sinned at all. However, we should certainly not continue carelessly sinning. Our old sinful nature has died.

Jesus rose from the dead, and we are also raised up. We are not slaves to sin anymore; we are free. We have a new nature in Christ. We may still sin sometimes, but we now want to be pure. We ask God to forgive us and to help us to refrain from sinning. We pray that God would make us holy.

Baptism represents the death of old self and resurrection with Christ. Through our baptism, God assures us that we are marked as His people.

## CONCLUSION

What is the mark by which everyone knows that we belong to God?



Have you been baptized? If so, when? ANSWERS MAY VARY

What happens when you are baptized? ANSWERS MAY VARY

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What does baptism represent? DEATH OF OLD SELF AND RESURRECTION

WITH CHRIST



**REMEMBER!** God forgives our sins and gives us new life in Christ. We are not slaves to sin anymore. We belong to God.

## PART 2: FALSE CHRISTIANS

### READ PAGES 40-44.

### DO YOU REMEMBER?

When Christian saw the cross on the hill, his BURDEN  
 fell off his back and rolled into a GRAVE. Three celestial beings  
 appeared. They gave Christian new CLOTHES, a MARK  
 on his forehead, and a BOOK to read and for identification at the  
 Celestial CITY.



### CHARACTERS

What do these characters' names mean?

Simple FOOLISH

Sloth LAZINESS

Presumption ASSUMING SOMETHING IS TRUE WITHOUT KNOWING

Formality ADHERING TO ESTABLISHED RITUALS

Hypocrisy CLAIMING TO BELIEVE, BUT NOT ACTING ON IT

**Answer the questions below:**

1. What were Simple, Sloth, and Presumption doing when Christian saw them?

THEY WERE SLEEPING IN CHAINS.

2. When Christian tried to warn Simple, Sloth, and Presumption of their danger, how did they respond?

THEY WOULD NOT LISTEN. THEY WENT BACK TO SLEEP.

3. How did Formality and Hypocrisy arrive at the path?

THEY CLIMBED IN OVER THE WALL.

4. What happened when Formality and Hypocrisy reached the Hill of Difficulty?

THEY TRIED TO GO AROUND ANOTHER WAY, AND THEY WERE

---

DESTROYED.

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## SYMBOLISM

In this portion of *Pilgrim's Progress*, John Bunyan explains that there are people who claim to be Christians but do not really love God. In the story, Christian encounters three men who are in chains and asleep. He tries to warn them and offers to free them, but they fall back to sleep again. Simple is too foolish to understand his peril. Sloth is too lazy to do anything about it. Presumption does not think it matters. These all represent people who ignore God's commands and make no effort to live as faithful Christians.

The next two people met by Christian are Formality and Hypocrisy. These represent people who make an outward show of being Christians, but they have no real intention of obeying God when life becomes hard. These men could not even take the trouble to begin their journey the right way. Instead of entering at the gate, they climbed in over the wall. Therefore, they failed to go to the cross, which shows that they never really repented of their sins at all.

Formality and Hypocrisy appear to be making excellent progress along the path until they encounter a difficult hill, and then they decide to try to go their own way. People who are insincere in their repentance never remain faithful to God in hard times. When they find Christianity too troublesome, they quickly fall away. In the end, they return to their sins.

Christian was able to avoid destruction because he remained on the right path. He continued to be obedient to God even during difficulty, and so he was spared from destruction.



Just as Hypocrisy and Formality thought they could get in over the wall, some people today still think they can do whatever evil things they want to do and then go to church. This is wrong. Like Hypocrisy and Formality, they will be judged for their disobedience to God's commands.

## CONCLUSION

Why was God angry with the people of Judah who were coming to offer sacrifices in the temple?

THEY WERE COMMITTING TERRIBLE SINS AT HOME.

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What sins were the people of Judah committing at home before they came up to the temple pretending to honor God?

THEY WERE STEALING, MURDERING, COMMITTING ADULTERY,

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COMMITTING PERJURY, AND WORSHIPING BAAL.

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How does God want us to honor him?

HE WANTS US TO DEAL JUSTLY WITH EACH OTHER AND SERVE

---

ONLY HIM.

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**PART 3: THE RESTFUL ARBOR**  
**READ PAGES 44-47.**

**DO YOU REMEMBER?**

Christian saw three sleeping men with CHAINS on their feet. Their names were SIMPLE, SLOTH, and PRESUMPTION. He tried to warn them, but they would not listen.

Later, he also met FORMALITY and HYPOCRISY, who had reached the path by climbing over the WALL. They were sure that they could get to the CELESTIAL City their own way, but when they came to the HILL of DIFFICULTY, they tried to go around, and they were both DESTROYED.



## CHARACTERS

What do these characters' names mean?

Timorous FEARFUL

Mistrust NOT TRUSTING

Watchful WATCHING CAREFULLY

Answer the questions below:

1. What did Christian lose in the arbor? THE BOOK

2. Why were Mistrust and Timorous running away? THEY WERE

AFRAID OF THE LIONS

3. How did Christian find his book again? HE WENT BACK TO THE

ARBOR AND SEARCHED FOR IT.

4. How was Christian able to pass by the lions without being eaten?

HE WALKED DOWN THE MIDDLE OF THE PATH BETWEEN THEM.

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## SYMBOLISM

Christian fell asleep in the arbor and lost his book. This event represents the tendency for Christians to become lazy and undisciplined. Sometimes people stop reading their Bibles. Maybe they still love God and know they should read Scripture, but they become sluggish and do not put in the effort. As long as life continues going well, they may not think about it much. When trouble comes, suddenly they realize that they do not know the Bible as well as they should.

If we realize that we have become too complacent and slothful, then the only proper thing to do is to start again—read the Bible, pray, and do the daily things which we were supposed to be doing all along.

Because he trusted God, Christian was able to walk between the lions. Mistrust and Timorous did not believe God's promises to protect them, and so they ran away. Christian was afraid, but he continued on the right way. Sometimes we also must continue obeying God, even when we are frightened. We must believe and trust in God.



## BIBLE READING

When Christian was asleep in the Restful Arbor, he was awakened by a voice telling him something about an ant. Do you remember what the voice said? It was quoting a Bible verse from the book of Proverbs. Let's read it:

Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest. (Proverbs 6:6-8)



Have you ever watched ants? What do you see them doing? They are always working! They walk in lines, collecting food and bringing it back to the anthill. Ants store food so that they will always have plenty to eat.

God tells us that we should be wise like ants. We should work hard and prepare for difficult times. This is true in every part of life. At school, you should study hard so that you will be ready for exams. At home, you should wash your clothes so that you will have something clean to wear. This is also true in Christian faith. We should pray and read our Bibles every day so that we are well-prepared.

## CONCLUSION

An ant works every day storing food for winter. Draw a picture of something you do that is hard work:

ANSWERS MAY VARY.

## PART 4: THE HOUSE BEAUTIFUL

### READ PAGES 47-55.

### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Christian fell asleep in the arbor and lost his BOOK. He met TIMOROUS and MISTRUST, who warned him to go back because of the LIONS ahead.

Christian realized he had lost his BOOK, and he had to return to the ARBOR to get it. He went on, and as he approached the LIONS, he was afraid. WATCHFUL told him to go straight ahead. He arrived safely at the HOUSE BEAUTIFUL.

### CHARACTERS



What do these characters' names mean?

Discretion BEHAVING AND SPEAKING CAREFULLY

Prudence \_\_\_\_\_ WISDOM

Piety \_\_\_\_\_ REVERENCE TO GOD

Charity \_\_\_\_\_ LOVE

**Answer the questions below:**

1. Prudence asked Christian whether he still thought of the place that he had come from. What did Christian answer?

CHRISTIAN SAID HE REMEMBERED IT WITH SHAME

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AND REGRET.

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2. Charity asked Christian whether he had tried to persuade his wife and children to join him on the path to the Celestial City. What did Christian say?

HE SAID HE HAD TRIED TO PERSUADE THEM, BUT THEY

---

WOULD NOT LISTEN.

---

3. What did Christian see in the armory? HE SAW EQUIPMENT FOR

SOLDIERS: SWORDS, SHIELDS, HELMETS, ETC.

4. What did Christian's friends at the House Beautiful give him to take on his journey?

ARMOR, A LOAF OF BREAD, A BOTTLE OF WINE, AND RAISINS.



## SYMBOLISM

Christian is approaching the Valley of Humility. Before he arrives, he stops for a while at the House Beautiful. He rests and talks with other believers and learns stories of heroes of faith. This helps him prepare for the rest of the journey.

God provides for us in a similar way. We can be encouraged through fellowship with other Christians. We are built up in our faith and prepared for trials when we remember that other people have been through difficulties and were strong in the Lord.



## BIBLE READING

The Bible tells us many stories of faithful people. Hebrews 11 is a famous Bible chapter with a remarkable list of heroes. Let's read a portion of this chapter and remember the stories:



By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.

By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away." For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith.

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. (Hebrews 11:4-10)

Nobody listed in Hebrews 11 was perfect. They were all people like you and me. They believed God, and so they obeyed him. You are called to do the same. Put your faith in God, just like Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, and all the other faithful believers throughout history!

## CONCLUSION

Read the rest of Hebrews 11. List three other heroes of faith mentioned in this chapter.

ANSWERS MAY VARY.

---

Who is your favorite Bible hero? ANSWERS MAY VARY.

There are many heroes of faith mentioned in the Bible, of course. There are heroes of faith today as well, even in everyday life. All Christians can be heroes for each other, building one another up in faith. Can you think of a time when someone helped you understand the Bible or resist temptation?

Who has helped you be faithful to God? ANSWERS MAY VARY.



**REMEMBER!** God provides Christian friends for us so that we may be encouraged to be strong in faith.

## CHAPTER 4: IN THE VALLEYS OF HUMILITY AND DEATH

### PART 1: ATTACKED BY APOLLYON READ PAGES 56-60.

#### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Christian arrived at the HOUSE BEAUTIFUL,

where he RESTED. Before Christian continued his journey, the ladies of

the house gave him ARMOR from the armory. The Porter told him

that a man named FAITHFUL had passed by on the path.



#### CHARACTERS

What does this character's name mean?

Apollyon DESTROYER

**Answer the questions below:**

1. What had Apollyon once own which he had lost? HE HAD ONCE

OWNED CHRISTIAN.

2. How did Apollyon say that Christian had been unfaithful to his new King?

HE FELL INTO THE SLOUGH OF DESPOND, TURNED TOWARD

MOUNT SINAI, LOST HIS BOOK, AND FEARED THE LIONS.

3. How did Christian block the flaming darts thrown by Apollyon?

HE BLOCKED THEM WITH HIS SHIELD.

4. How did Christian finally win the battle?

HE STABBED APOLLYON WITH THE SWORD.



## SYMBOLISM

Apollyon is the destroyer. He represents Satan. Just as Christian had once been a servant of Apollyon, so also we were once slaves to sin, but now we have been set free to serve God.

When we have been reading and learning Scripture, we are well-prepared to defend ourselves against any attack of Satan.

## CONCLUSION

Jesus was tempted by Satan in the desert. The story is told to us in Matthew 4:1-11. Read the story and answer the questions below.

How many times was Jesus tempted by Satan? THREE

How did Jesus use the sword of the Spirit (the Word of God) against Satan?

HE ANSWERED SATAN'S TEMPTATIONS BY QUOTING SCRIPTURE.

---



**REMEMBER!** Satan tries to make us doubt God or tempts us to disobey God, but we can stand strong and use the weapons provided by God: truth, righteousness, the gospel, faith, salvation, and the Word of God.

## PART 2: HORRORS OF THE VALLEY OF DEATH

READ PAGES 60–65.

### DO YOU REMEMBER?

A monster named APOLLYON attacked Christian on the path. He tempted Christian to doubt God. Christian's SHIELD protected him against Apollyon's darts, and he used his SWORD to defeat the monster. Christian was injured, but he used HEALING leaves to heal his wounds.



### CHARACTERS

What do these characters' names mean?

Self-Love LOVING ONESELF

Critic FINDING FAULT WITH EVERYTHING

Pope THE HEAD OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pagan WORSHIPPER OF OTHER GODS

**Answer the questions below:**

1. Why did Self-Love and Critic tell Christian to turn back?

THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH WAS JUST AHEAD.

2. What weapon did Christian have against the voices which he heard?

PRAYER

3. What did the demon do to torment Christian?

IT WHISPERED BLASPHEMY INTO CHRISTIAN'S EAR SO THAT

CHRISTIAN BELIEVED HE WAS THINKING IT.

4. Why did the giants Pope and Pagan leave Christian alone?

PAGAN WAS DEAD, AND POPE WAS OLD AND TOOTHLESS.

---

---

sheep. Sometimes the Shepherd leads us along dark and frightening paths, but we do not need to be afraid. He is with us. He gives us everything we need.

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
he leads me beside quiet waters,  
he refreshes my soul.  
He guides me along the right paths  
for his name's sake.  
Even though I walk  
through the darkest valley,  
I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.  
You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies.  
You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
Surely your goodness and love will follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD  
forever.

## CONCLUSION

When we are afraid and feel alone, what should we remember?

GOD IS ALWAYS WITH US.

---



Does God ever lead us through difficult times? NO

God promises that He will never leave us. Look up Hebrews 13:5 in your Bible and copy it here:

KEEP YOUR LIVES FREE FROM THE LOVE OF MONEY AND BE CONTENT

---

WITH WHAT YOU HAVE, BECAUSE GOD HAS SAID, "NEVER WILL I

---

LEAVE YOU, NEVER WILL I FORSAKE YOU."

---

---



**REMEMBER!** Sometimes God leads us through great trials, but He is always with us.

## CHAPTER 5: CHRISTIAN AND FAITHFUL

### PART 1: THE TEMPTATION OF FAITHFUL READ PAGES 66-72.

#### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Christian entered the Valley of the SHADOW of DEATH,  
in spite of the warnings of SELF-LOVE and CRITIC.  
Christian was frightened by the horrors in the valley, and a DEMON  
tormented him by whispering BLASPHEMY in his ear.  
Christian was encouraged when he heard a VOICE, and he  
was able to travel safely through the valley. As he was leaving the valley, he  
saw the destruction left by two giants POPE and PAGAN,  
but they did not ATTACK him.



## CHARACTERS

What do these characters' names mean?

Faithful LOYAL, FULL OF FAITH

Wanton PROMISCUOUS

**Answer the questions below:**

1. What happened to Pliable after he returned to the City of Destruction?

HIS NEIGHBORS CONDEMNED HIM.

2. Wanton tempted Faithful. How did he respond? HE REFUSED TO

GIVE IN TO HER.

3. What was the name of the old man who offered to give Faithful his house as an inheritance?

ADAM THE FIRST

4. Why did Faithful refuse the old man's offer?

HE REALIZED THAT THE OLD MAN WOULD MAKE HIM A SLAVE.

5. What did the old man do when Faithful refused to go with him?

---

THE OLD MAN GRABBED HIM AND PULLED HIM BACKWARD.

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## SYMBOLISM

Faithful was tempted to live an easy, self-centered life seeking only after pleasure. With the help of God, he was able to resist this temptation. He was first enticed by a wicked woman. She offered him fleshly pleasure, but God helped Faithful remember that he should not defile his body. Then Faithful was tempted by Adam the First, who offered to help him gather wealth and enjoy luxury. He escaped when he realized that he would be a slave to the old man, but he was tormented still by the commandments he had broken. Christ saved Faithful from being destroyed by the law.

We are all tempted to live only for the pleasures and wealth of this world. We must remember that obeying God is more important than anything in life. People who live only for money and pleasure soon become slaves to it. They can never get enough to make them happy; they are always discontent. We should keep this in mind so that we will not be ensnared by temptation.

Whenever we do break God's commandments, we should remember that Christ died for us. Guilt would destroy us unless Jesus had taken the penalty for our sins.



## BIBLE READING

Jesus instructed us to remember that worldly possessions do not last forever:

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:19-21)

We must always remember that loving God is the most important thing in life. Sometimes we are tempted to ignore God and seek after pleasure, money, or popularity. These Bible verses remind us that all those things are temporary. Eventually, we all die, and we cannot take anything with us. Only our obedience to God bears eternal fruit.

## CONCLUSION

Suppose someone says to you, "I do not have time to read my Bible or go to church. I want a nice house and a nice car, and so I have to focus on earning more money right now. Someday, I will have time to think about God."

How would you respond?

ANSWERS MAY VARY.

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**REMEMBER!** The world is passing away. God is eternal, and we should love Him more than anything else.

## PART 2: DISCONTENT AND SHAME

### READ PAGES 73-76.

### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Christian caught up with FAITHFUL on the path. Faithful told Christian his story. He said that he had been tempted by WANTON and by ADAM the First, both of whom promised pleasures of this life. Later, Faithful had been beaten by MOSES for breaking the law, but he was rescued by CHRIST.



### CHARACTERS

**What does these characters' names mean?**

Discontent GRUMBLING

Shame EMBARRASSMENT

**Answer the questions below:**

1. Why was Discontent unhappy on his journey?

HE BELIEVED HE HAD LOST THE RESPECT OF OTHERS.

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2. What was Shame's opinion of sermons?

HE SAID IT WAS A SHAME TO LISTEN TO THEM.

---

3. What did Shame think about asking forgiveness?

HE SAID IT WAS A SHAME TO APOLOGIZE.

---

4. In his conversation with Shame, what did Faithful say would be crucial on the day of judgment?

THE WORD OF GOD

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## SYMBOLISM

Discontent and Shame represent temptations in Christian life. We all have a tendency to be discontent and arrogant. Our dissatisfaction can lead us to complain that we are not important enough or that others are not

Humble people never forget that they are sinners. They do not think too highly of themselves, and so they listen to God's instructions. The Lord guides them in what is right.

## CONCLUSION

Alexis's mother reminded her before school, "Don't forget your homework!" Alexis tried to remember, but, as she was leaving school, she started talking to her friends. She was already on the bus when she remembered that she had left her homework in her desk.

If Alexis is **proud**, how do you think she will answer when her mother asks about her homework?

SHE WILL APOLOGIZE FOR LEAVING HER HOMEWORK AT SCHOOL.

---

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If Alexis is **humble**, how do you think she will answer when her mother asks about her homework?

SHE WILL BECOME ANGRY AND REFUSE TO APOLOGIZE.

---

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**REMEMBER!** We must be humble before God, remembering that we are sinners. We must listen to His instruction in the Bible.



## PART 3: TALKATIVE

READ PAGES 76-86.

### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Faithful told CHRISTIAN more about his adventures on the path. Faithful had met DISCONTENT, who complained that there was no dignity in being a believer. Later, Faithful met SHAME, who thought humility was embarrassing. Faithful told him that we should not think too much about other people's opinions because GOD will be our judge on the day of JUDGMENT.



### CHARACTERS

What does this character's name mean?

Talkative A PERSON WHO TALKS A LOT

**Answer the questions below:**

1. What did Faithful think about Talkative at first? HE THOUGHT

TALKATIVE WAS A SINCERE BELIEVER.

2. What was Christian's warning? TALKATIVE ONLY SPOKE

LIKE A CHRISTIAN AROUND OTHER CHRISTIANS

3. How did Talkative respond when Faithful started asking him about his behavior?

HE SAID FAITHFUL WAS PETTY AND FAULT-FINDING, AND

HE REFUSED WITH TALK TO HIM ANYMORE

4. What was the problem with Talkative? HE DID NOT PUT

CHRISTIANITY INTO PRACTICE. HE ONLY LIKED TO TALK.



## SYMBOLISM

The character of Talkative symbolizes a person who is able to say all the right things about God but does not live according to God's law.

It is also worthless to talk about obeying God without actual obedience. Faith must be accompanied by actions.

## CONCLUSION

Read John 14:15 and copy it here:

IF YOU LOVE ME, KEEP MY COMMANDS.

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**REMEMBER!** Real faith is always accompanied by real obedience to God.

## CHAPTER 6: VANITY FAIR AND THE CITY OF VANITY

### PART 1: VANITY FAIR READ PAGES 87-93.

#### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Christian and Faithful met TALKATIVE on the path.

Faithful liked TALKATIVE at first, but Christian recollected him

as someone who liked to TALK but did not obey GOD

in his everyday LIFE .

#### PLACES

**What does this town name mean?**



Vanity WORTHLESSNESS

**Answer the questions below:**

1. Whom did Christian and Faithful meet again? EVANGELIST

2. What warning did Evangelist give them? THEY WERE GOING INTO

A CITY WHERE THEY WOULD FACE SEVERE TRIALS.

3. What did the people of Vanity care about?

MONEY, PLEASURE, AND FAME

4. Who built Vanity Fair? BEELZEBUS, APOLLYON, AND LEGION

5. Why were Christian and Faithful arrested? THEY REFUSED TO

BUY VANITIES AND SAID THEY WOULD ONLY BUY TRUTH.



## SYMBOLISM

Vanity Fair symbolizes all the distractions Satan uses to turn our hearts away from God. **Vanity** indicates worthlessness, and all the things bought and sold at the fair are ultimately worthless. Thieves and liars abound at Vanity Fair, hawking useless entertainment and merchandise. John Bunyan notes that the town is so big that no one can avoid it. Every Christian will be tempted by the vain things of the earth.

The world is indeed filled with worthless things and people who want to defraud others. It is easy to get caught up in the pursuit of vanity.



worthless things are destroying themselves. God rewards those who obey Him.

## CONCLUSION

Matt and David were in the same class in school. One day, David asked Matt to go to the store with him. Matt was glad that David wanted to be his friend. However, when they arrived at the store, David took some baseball cards from the shelf and whispered, "Put these in your pockets! I will distract the clerk so he won't see you, and then we can sneak out of the store without paying!"

"I don't want to steal anything," said Matt. "Let's just save up our money to buy some baseball cards."

"You are a sissy!" David hissed. He stormed out of the store, and the next day, he would not speak to Matt at all. He told the other boys in the class that Matt was a sissy, and soon no one would speak to Matt.

Matt wondered if he had done the right thing by refusing to help David steal. "I was trying to obey God," Matt thought. "But now everyone thinks I am a sissy."

ANSWERS MAY VARY.

What would you tell Matt? \_\_\_\_\_

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Suppose David continues to steal from the store. Do you think he will always get away with his stealing? What do you think will happen eventually?

EVENTUALLY, DAVID WILL BE CAUGHT AND PUNISHED.

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## PART 2: FAITHFUL'S TRIAL

READ PAGES 93-98.

### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Christian and Faithful met EVANGELIST again. He warned them that they would soon arrive at a town called VANITY and suffer greatly there. When Christian and FAITHFUL arrived in the city, they were ARRESTED because they refused to buy vanities.



### CHARACTERS

What do these characters' names mean?

Lord Hategood HATING GOOD

Mr. Envy JEALOUSY

Mr. Supersition TRUSTING IN MAGIC

Mr. Deception LIAR

**Answer the questions below:**

1. What was Mr. Envy's accusation against Faithful?

THAT HE DID NOT REGARD THE LAWS AND CUSTOMS OF VANITY

---

2. What was Mr. Superstition's accusation against Faithful?

THAT HE SAID THE RELIGION OF VANITY WAS NOT FROM GOD

---

3. What was Mr. Deception's accusation against Faithful?

THAT HE SPOKE AGAINST THE LEADERS OF THE TOWN

---

4. What happened to Faithful?

HE WAS KILLED

---

5. What happened to Christian after Faithful was killed?

HE WAS IMPRISONED FOR A WHILE AND THEN RELEASED.

---



## SYMBOLISM

John Bunyan wrote *Pilgrim's Progress* while he was imprisoned for preaching the gospel. It is likely that he derived his description of the trial and witnesses from his own experience with injustice which condemned him for the "crime" of preaching the Word of God.



Although most of us today have never been in prison for our faith, we still face more subtle pressure from those around us. We may be judged unfairly. People might accuse us of being disruptive simply because we will not join them in their wickedness. People may even tell lies about us, as Mr. Deceptive did about Faithful. Whatever happens to us, we must remain faithful to God. Never trade your heavenly reward for worldly vanities.



## BIBLE READING

In the gospel of Matthew, Jesus reminds us of the great value of our souls. He asks:

What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done. (Matthew 16:26-27)

Nothing is worth losing our souls. Even if we could gain everything in the world, it would all be vanity. In the end, God rewards the righteous and condemns the wicked.

## CONCLUSION

What sort of things were people buying at Vanity Fair?

RICHES, TITLES, GAMES, POPULARITY, LIES, TRICKS, BEAUTY,

PROSTITUTES, AND SOULS.

In order to purchase their vanities, the people of the town were giving up their souls. Was this a good exchange?

NO

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At the end of the chapter, Christian sang a song about Faithful which ended with these words: *Though they killed you, you are still alive.* What does this mean?

FAITHFUL WAS TAKEN AWAY TO THE CELESTIAL CITY.

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ALTHOUGH HIS BODY DIED, HIS SOUL LIVED ON.

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**REMEMBER!** Nothing is worth more than your soul.

## CHAPTER 7: JOURNEY TO THE DELECTABLE MOUNTAINS

### PART 1: HOPEFUL AND THE HYPOCRITES READ PAGES 99-107.

#### DO YOU REMEMBER?

In the town of Vanity, FAITHFUL was put on trial. The witnesses against him were Mr. ENVY, Mr. SUPERSTITION, and Mr. DECEPTION. Evil men killed FAITHFUL and put CHRISTIAN in prison. Christian was eventually released, and he continued on his way, singing about FAITHFUL.



#### CHARACTERS

What do these characters' names mean?

Hopeful FULL OF HOPE

Crafty DECEIVING

Moneylove LOVES MONEY

Earthy OF THE EARTH

Save-All KEEPS EVERYTHING

**Answer the questions below:**

1. What did Hopeful tell Christian about Faithful's death?

IT HAD INFLUENCED HIM TO BECOME A PILGRIM.

2. Why did Christian refuse to allow Crafty to travel with him?

CRAFTY REFUSED TO GIVE UP HIS CHEATING WAYS.

3. Where had Crafty, Earthy, Moneylove, and Save-All attended school?

MR. GRASPING'S SCHOOL IN LOVEGAIN

4. What most interested Crafty, Earthy, Moneylove, and Save-All?

ACQUIRING POSSESSIONS

## CONCLUSION

Can you think of another Bible story in which someone tried to use God to gain money or power? (If you cannot remember one, read pages 106-107 of *Pilgrim's Progress in Today's English*.) Write your example below.

ANSWERS MAY VARY.

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**REMEMBER!** Our faith must focus on God alone. We should not view Christianity as a tool to gain money, power, or other worldly things.

**PART 2: DEMAS**  
**READ PAGES 107-110.**

**DO YOU REMEMBER?**

Christian met a man named HOPEFUL who became his friend  
on the journey. They met some hypocrites named CRAFTY  
EARTHY, MONEYLOVE, and SAVE-ALL  
who were only interested in MONEY.

**PLACES**



**What does the name of this hill mean?**

Lucre MONEY

**Answer the questions below:**

1. What was located inside the hill called Lucre?

A SILVER MINE

2. What happened to people who approached the hill?

THEY FELL INTO THE PIT.

---

3. Who was Demas?

A MAN WHO CALLED PEOPLE TO COME OVER TO LUCRE

---

4. What happened to Crafty and his friends?

THEY FOLLOWED DEMAS AND DISAPPEARED INTO THE PIT.

---

5. What was written on the Pillar of Salt?

"REMEMBER LOT'S WIFE."

---



## SYMBOLISM

John Bunyan concludes his discussion on greed with a warning. He shows how people can be drawn away from their faith and destroyed by covetousness. Even Hopeful is nearly persuaded by Demas to wander away from the path looking for riches, and when Crafty and his companions are called aside, they disappear into the pit.

The Pillar of Salt is the final declaration of the dangers of loving riches and other worldly things too much. Genesis 19 tells us that God destroyed the city of Sodom. A man named Lot and his family had been spared by God,



but Lot's wife ignored the warning to run without looking back. She looked back at Sodom and became a pillar of salt.

Jesus later used that story as an illustration to warn his followers not to focus on saving their possessions when judgment came upon the land (Luke 17).



## BIBLE READING

In the New Testament, Demas was a man who initially followed God and even ministered with the apostles. In the end, however, he deserted the work of God because he loved the world (II Timothy 4:10). The apostle John wrote about the dangers of loving the world in one of his letters:

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever. (I John 2:15-17)

## CONCLUSION

According the passage in I John, what happens to the world and its desires?

THEY PASS AWAY.

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What happens to those who do the will of God?

THEY LIVE FOREVER.

---



## PART 3: GIANT DESPAIR

### READ PAGES 110-118.

### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Christian and Hopeful approached a hill called LUCRE. A man named DEMAS called to them to leave the path and go to the silver mine. HOPEFUL was tempted, but Christian warned him not listen. Later, CRAFTY, Moneylove, SAVE-ALL, and Earthy disappeared in the SILVER mine. Christian and Hopeful saw a warning on the Pillar of SALT that said, "Remember Lot's wife."

### CHARACTERS



**What do these characters' names mean?**

Self-Confidence CONFIDENCE IN ONESELF

Despair \_\_\_\_\_ LOST HOPE

Gloom \_\_\_\_\_ SADNESS

**Answer the questions below:**

1. Why did Christian and Hopeful leave the path?

\_\_\_\_\_ THEY WANTED AN EASIER PATH.

2. What did Giant Despair do with Christian and Hopeful?

\_\_\_\_\_ HE PUT THEM IN A DUNGEON.

3. How did Christian and Hopeful escape?

\_\_\_\_\_ CHRISTIAN REMEMBERED THE KEY OF PROMISE.



## SYMBOLISM

Christian and Hopeful became prisoners of Despair when they took the wrong path. They thought it would be an easier way and would not matter much, but soon, they realized they had gone very far astray. Instead of obeying God, they had followed their self-confidence to do things their

## CONCLUSION

Can you think of another promise of God? Find it in your Bible and write it below:

ANSWERS MAY VARY.

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**REMEMBER!** When we put our hope in God, we will never be prisoners of despair.

## CHAPTER 8: AT THE DELECTABLE MOUNTAINS

### THE WARNING OF THE SHEPHERDS READ PAGES 119-122.

#### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Christian and Hopeful took the wrong path and followed after a man named SELF-CONFIDANCE. When they realized they were far away from the true path, they turned back but were captured by GIANT DESPAIR. Imprisoned in the castle, Christian nearly despaired, but HOPEFUL encouraged him. Finally, Christian remembered a key called PROMISE, and they were able to ESCAPE.



#### CHARACTERS

What do these characters' names mean?

Knowledge KNOWING MUCH

Experience PRACTICAL OBSERVATION

Watchful WATCHING CAREFULLY

Sincerity HONESTY

**Answer the questions below:**

1. What did Christian and Hopeful see at the bottom of Error Hill?

BONES OF THOSE WHO HAD FALLEN

2. What did Christian and Hopeful see from Caution Peak?

BLIND MEN AMONG TOMBS

3. Who had traveled the byway to Hell?

JUDAS, ALEXANDER, ANANIAS, AND SAPPHIRA

4. How did Christian and Hopeful see the Celestial City?

THEY LOOKED THROUGH THE EYE-OF-FAITH FROM THE

TOP OF A PEAK CALLED CLEAR.

5. As Christian and Faithful were leaving, what final two warnings were they given?

BEWARE OF THE DECEIVER, AND DO NOT SLEEP ON THE

ENCHANTED GROUND.



## SYMBOLISM

As we continue our Christian walk every day, we begin to gain experience and understanding. We learn to watch out for certain errors and to persevere in trials. We gain a larger perspective of life which permits us to see dangers more easily.

John Bunyan pictures these aspects of Christian life as shepherds who caution us about pitfalls on the road ahead. It is wise to remember the lessons we have learned, as Christian and Hopeful recalled their experience as prisoners of Giant Despair.

We should also listen to the knowledge and experience of others, as Christian and Hopeful avoided falling from the cliff at Error Hill. They looked at the destruction of people who had gone that way, and so they realized they should never venture down that path.





## BIBLE READING

The Bible tells us to be quick to learn, especially from those who have more knowledge and experience:

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction. Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. (Proverbs 1:7-8)

Wisdom begins with fearing God and honoring His commands. The writer of Proverbs declares that anyone who hates to be taught is a fool. If we are too proud to learn, then we are doomed to make serious mistakes which could have been easily avoided if we had only listened to knowledge and experience.

## CONCLUSION

The passage in Proverbs especially advises us to listen to our parents. Why do you think that is so important?

PARENTS HAVE GOOD KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE.

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Good fathers and mothers set rules for their children. These rules are based on the parents' knowledge and experience. Just as the shepherds warned Christian and Hopeful of dangers they would encounter on the way to the Celestial City, parents warn children of dangers in the world. Fathers and mothers want their children to grow up safe and healthy—both physically and spiritually.

Give three examples of rules your parents have set to keep you safe.

1. ANSWERS MAY VARY

2. ANSWERS MAY VARY

3. ANSWERS MAY VARY



**REMEMBER!** Only a fool refuses to learn.



## CHAPTER 9: IN THE LOW COUNTRY OF CONCEIT

### PART 1: IGNORANCE AND LITTLE-FAITH READ PAGES 123-126.

#### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Christian and Hopeful arrived at the DELECTABLE Mountains.

They met some SHEPHERDS who gave them warnings about the

journey ahead. They also caught a glimpse of the CELESTIAL City

through a glass called Eye-of- FAITH .



#### CHARACTERS

What do these characters' names mean?

Ignorance LACKING KNOWLEDGE

Turnaway TURNING AWAY

Little-Faith LACKING FAITH



## PLACES

What do these names mean?

Conceit PRIDE

Apostasy REJECTING TRUTH

**Answer the questions below:**

1. Why was Ignorance sure he would be accepted at the gate of the Celestial City?

HE BELIEVED HE HAD LIVED A GOOD LIFE.

2. Whom did Christian and Hopeful see led away by demons?

MR. TURNAWAY

3. What were the names of the enemies who had overcome Little-Faith?

GUILT, MISTRUST, AND FAINTHEART

4. Why did Christian say that pilgrims must not brag about their courage?

SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT TRUST IN THEIR OWN STRENGTH

If we trust in God, we will not be downcast or disturbed. We know that God is sovereign over everything, and He provides for us.

## CONCLUSION

Suppose someone tells you, "I believe that I am good enough to go to heaven because I am usually nice to other people."

How would John Bunyan describe this person? (Think of the name he gave to the character who spoke that way.)

IGNORANT

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Suppose someone tells you, "I have made so many mistakes. God could never possibly accept me!"

How would John Bunyan describe this person? (Think of the name he gave to the character who grieved over all his mistakes.)

LITTLE FAITH

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**REMEMBER!** Put your trust in God. Only God can save us from our sins, and only God can give us the strength and perseverance we need in life.

## PART 2: THE DECEIVER AND THE ATHEIST

READ PAGES 126-129.

### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Christian and Hopeful entered the low country of CONCEIT. They met a man named IGNORANCE who told them that he was certain to be accepted to the Celestial City because he was GOOD. They also saw a man named Turnaway, who had been captured by DEMONS, and a man named LITTLE-FAITH who constantly grieved over his loss.



### CHARACTERS

What do these characters' names mean?

Deceiver LIAR

Atheist DOES NOT BELIEVE IN GOD

**Answer the questions below:**

1. What color were the clothes of the Deceiver? WHITE

2. What happened to Christian and Hopeful when they followed the Deceiver?

THEY BECAME TRAPPED IN A NET.

3. What did the Shining One carry in his hand?

HE CARRIED A WHIP.

4. Why were Christian and Hopeful so ashamed of themselves?

THEY HAD NOT LISTED TO THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE

SHEPHERDS.

5. Why did Mr. Atheist laugh at Christian and Hopeful?

HE THOUGHT THEY WERE FOOLISH FOR BELIEVING IN HEAVEN.



## SYMBOLISM

Christian and Hopeful grow lazy when the road becomes easy. Even though the shepherds have provided them with instructions, they do not properly heed the warning. Because they fail to attend to the words of Knowledge, Experience, and the others, they fall into the net of the Deceiver.

## CONCLUSION

There are many people today who follow false teachers. Often those teachers claim to receive their messages directly from God. We must carefully avoid deceivers.

Suppose someone says to you, "I had a vision of heaven, and now I have a new message from God. You do not need to read the Bible anymore. Just listen to me!"

What should you say?

ANSWERS MAY VARY.

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**REMEMBER!** God has warned us that deceivers exist in the world. We must be on guard and hold very tightly to the truth of the gospel.

## PART 3: HOPEFUL

READ PAGES 129–137.

### DO YOU REMEMBER?

In spite of the warning of the SHEPHERDS, Christian and Hopeful followed the DECEIVER. They were caught in a NET until the SHINING One freed them.

Later, they met a man called ATHEIST who laughed at them for believing in HEAVEN.

### Answer the questions below:

1. Why did Christian refuse to let Hopeful lay down to sleep on the Enchanted Ground?

HE MIGHT NEVER WAKE UP.

2. Why sort of man had Hopeful been before he became a pilgrim?

HE HAD BEEN A WILD SINNER.

3. After Hopeful reformed himself and lived a good life, why did he still feel anxious?

HE FEARED THAT HE COULD NOT PAY FOR HIS SINS AND

THAT GOD MIGHT NOT ACCEPT HIM.

4. Who was Hopeful's friend? FAITHFUL

5. What new understanding made Hopeful's heart overflow with joy?

CHRIST HAS PAID FOR OUR SINS, AND WE ONLY HAVE TO

BELIEVE ON HIM TO BE SAVED.



## SYMBOLISM

Hopeful's sleepiness symbolizes the laziness which may come upon us when Christian life becomes routine. Christian refuses to let Hopeful sleep and recalls his mind to all the reasons he should be thankful to God. Hopeful is able to stay alert and make progress on the path because he recollects God's grace to him.

When Hopeful tells his story, he reveals that he was once very much like Ignorance. He thought he could save himself by simply leaving his sin behind and living a good life. Once Hopeful realized he could not pay for his own sins, he became much like Little-Faith—doubting that God would ever save a sinner who had done such terrible things.



Salvation is a gift of God's grace. Christ atoned for our sin—not because we are good, but because God loves us. He saved us while we were still in our sins.

## CONCLUSION

The apostle Paul wrote to his friend Timothy about his amazement at God's grace to him. Like Hopeful, Paul had once been a terrible sinner. He rejoiced that God forgave his sins and raised him up to a new life in Christ.

Read Paul's declaration to Timothy in I Timothy 1:15-16. Copy it here:

HERE IS A TRUSTWORTHY SAYING THAT DESERVES FULL ACCEPTANCE:

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CHRIST JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS - OF WHOM

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I AM THE WORST. BUT FOR THAT VERY REASON I WAS SHOWN MERCY

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SO THAT IN ME, THE WORST OF SINNERS, CHRIST JESUS MIGHT

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DISPLAY HIS IMMENSE PATIENCE AS AN EXAMPLE FOR THOSE WHO

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WOULD BELIEVE IN HIM AND RECEIVE ETERNAL LIFE.



**REMEMBER!** We are saved by grace through faith in Christ.

## CHAPTER 10: THE TALK WITH IGNORANCE

### PART 1: FALSE FAITH AND TRUE FAITH READ PAGES 138-142.

#### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Hopeful almost fell asleep on the ENCHANTED ground. Christian kept Hopeful awake by having him talk about his CONVERSION.

Hopeful said he had once been a terrible SINNER, but then he tried to mend his ways. But only when he understood God's GRACE was he able to live a JOYFUL Christian life.

#### Answer the questions below:

1. Why was Ignorance sure that God would accept him?

HE BELIEVED THAT HE LIVED A GOOD LIFE, AND HE

TRUSTED THE ASSURANCE OF HIS HEART.

2. Did Ignorance believe that his heart could be deceived?

NO

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3. How did Christian respond to Ignorance?

WE MUST TRUST GOD'S WORD MORE THAN WE TRUST

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OURSELVES AND OUR FEELINGS.

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4. Was Ignorance persuaded by Christian?

NO

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## SYMBOLISM

Many people believe that God will accept them because they are good. They do not understand their own wickedness. They do not like to think about all the bad things they have done. They make excuses for themselves in their hearts, and then they trust their own hearts rather than the Word of God.

Even though Ignorance claims to believe God, he refuses to accept God's Word about himself and his sinful condition. He will not listen to anything that judges him.

Like Christian, we should remember that God's Word is the ultimate standard. We should not listen to our own thoughts and ideas about what is acceptable. Our hearts can deceive us. We must read the Bible and believe that God's Word is true.



## BIBLE READING

The book of Proverbs often speaks of mockers—those who refuse to obey God’s Word or listen to the warnings of others:

Do not rebuke mockers or they will hate you; rebuke the wise and they will love you. Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. (Proverbs 9:8-10)

In *Pilgrim’s Progress*, Ignorance represents a mocker. Unmoved by the instruction of Scripture and the warnings of his Christian friends, he persists in following his own way. He is ignorant because he chooses to be ignorant; he refuses to learn. When Christian and Hopeful attempt to instruct him, he merely becomes annoyed and will not walk with them anymore. Although Ignorance believes himself to be very wise, he acts foolishly.

## CONCLUSION

According to Proverbs 9:10, what is the beginning of wisdom?

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THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS THE

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BEGINNING OF WISDOM.

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Ignorance thought he was very wise. Where was he finding his ideas about salvation?

HE FOUND ALL HIS IDEAS IN HIS OWN THOUGHTS.

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Suppose a man discovers that he is wrong about his ideas and behavior.

If he does not change his ways, is he a wise man? NO

If he changes and begins to do the right thing, is he a wise man? YES

Ignorance refused to walk with anyone who did not think exactly as he did.  
How does this make him a mocker?

HE WOULD NOT LEARN FROM ANYONE.

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**REMEMBER!** God is the source of all true wisdom.

## PART 2: BACKSLIDING

READ PAGES 143-147.

### DO YOU REMEMBER?

Christian and Hopeful met IGNORANCE again, and they tried to talk with him. Ignorance trusted HIMSELF instead of believing God's WORD. When he realized Christian and Hopeful did did not agree with him, Ignorance refused to WALK with them.



### CHARACTERS

What do these characters' names mean?

Mr. Temporary LASTING FOR ONLY A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME

Self-Save TRYING TO SAVE ONESELF

**Answer the questions below:**

1. Hopeful tells a story about a man named Temporary. What is the story?

TEMPORARY HAD SHOWN SOME INTEREST IN FAITH, BUT HAD

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LATER CHANGED WHEN HE MET SELF-SAVE AND WOULD NOT

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ASSOCIATE WITH HOPEFUL ANYMORE.

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2. Christian speculates that people like Temporary are initially repentant because they fear hell. He says they are like thieves and murderers who weep in front of a judge. They appear repentant, but if the judge releases them so that they are not afraid anymore, what happens?

THEY RETURN TO THEIR OLD WAYS.

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## SYMBOLISM

In Christian life, we will occasionally encounter backsliders—people who appear to make a sincere profession of faith in Christ, but then turn away. In the end, they are often more hardened against the teaching of Scripture than those who have never attended church at all.

Christian explains to Hopeful that backsliding is rooted in the motivation for following Christ in the first place. If people are only afraid of going to hell but have no sincere love for God, then their faith will be temporary—here one minute, gone the next. If they can convince themselves that hell is not immediately threatening, they go back to their sins.

People who are honest in their repentance will persevere in faith. Their hearts are changed by the Holy Spirit so that they love God and want to obey the Bible.



## BIBLE READING

The apostle Peter warned against backsliding in his letter to believers:

Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen (II Peter 3:17-18)

Peter encourages his fellow Christians to continue to grow in faith so that they will not fall away.

## CONCLUSION

Suppose someone says to you, "I never go to church or read my Bible anymore. I used to do all that stuff, but now I just try to be a good person."

How would you respond?

ANSWERS MAY VARY.

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The apostle Peter tells us to continue growing in grace and knowledge of Christ. What are some things you do to grow in your faith?

ANSWERS MAY VARY.

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**REMEMBER!** Guard against backsliding, and continue growing in the grace and knowledge of Christ Jesus.

## CHAPTER 11: NEAR TO THE CITY OF GOD

### CROSSING THE RIVER READ PAGES 149-156.

#### DO YOU REMEMBER?

After the talk with Ignorance, CHRISTIAN and Hopeful discussed the problem of BACKSLIDING. They remembered a man named TEMPORARY who had once shown great interest in faith, but had turned back after meeting SELF-SAVE.

#### Answer the questions below:

1. What was the last great obstacle that Christian and Hopeful had to cross in order to reach the Celestial City?

THE RIVER

2. Which of the pilgrims was most frightened by the river?

CHRISTIAN

3. How did Hopeful encourage Christian?

HE REMINDED CHRISTIAN OF GOD'S PROMISES.

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4. What happened to Hopeful and Christian after they crossed the river?

THEY WERE RECEIVED INTO THE CELESTIAL CITY.

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5. What happened to Ignorance when he reached the gate of the Celestial City?

HE WAS REFUSED ENTRANCE.

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## SYMBOLISM

Many people—even Christians—fear death. They may be afraid that death will sweep them away and destroy them forever. They may wonder whether God will receive them.

Hopeful encourages Christian by reminding him of the promises of God. We do not have to be frightened by death if we put our trust in God. His Word is true and faithful. He forgives our sins and receives us into our eternal home.

Ignorance trusts in himself so much that death does not even trouble him. He is not as frightened as Christian, but in the end, his hope is in vain.

John Bunyan concludes the tale of Christian's journey by reminding us to put our faith in God, not in ourselves. God's promises are always true. He will never forsake us.



## BIBLE READING

The writing in letters of gold on the Celestial City is a reference to one of the promises found in the book of Revelation:

Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. (Revelation 22:14)

The phrase **wash their robes** refers to repentance of sin. People who repent and believe in Christ are given the right to the blessings of heaven. God has promised this to us, and we may trust that God's Word is true.

## CONCLUSION

There are many Bible verses which promise us eternal life. Can you remember another one? Write it below:

ANSWERS MAY VARY.