

## The Pilgrim's Progress: A Study

### Week 2: Section 1: Pilgrim's Conviction and Setting Out; Evangelist (Pastor's Notes)

#### Cover the Narrative

Let's take time to discuss the basic story of pages 3-11 by focusing on these key questions:

1. How does the very beginning of the narrative start?
2. How is the main character initially described in the text?
3. What happens to the main character, such that he becomes greatly troubled?
4. How does his family respond (be specific)?
5. Does his trouble of mind and soul find easy rest in the world?
6. What was Pilgrim doing when walking through the fields, and what did he cry out?
7. Who answered his cry?
8. What does the main character tell Evangelist is his pressing trouble?
9. What does Evangelist give to this man, and how does he direct him?
10. What will he find at the gate?
11. Who tries to hinder the man from initially leaving the city behind?
12. Who were resolved to fetch the man back by force?

We will read 8-11 to hear the discussion between the man, now called Christian, Obstinate, and Pliable.

*-Select people to read the parts.*

#### Go over the worksheets

Explain the problem over the book/worksheet combo. Work through the answers from the previous week.

#### Theological Discussion

- Theological significance of the characters- the man with the book and burden, his family, the townspeople, Evangelist, Obstinate, and Pliable?
- Theological significance of the Locations: City of Destruction, Wicket Gate
- This section in our study guide is titled conviction of sin. Why? And are all the people in this story equally convicted (particularly focus on Bunyan's subtle hint at the end of our section where Pliable is unhindered from mending to a quicker pace, which Christian cannot keep).
- What was the source of Christian's conviction and awakening to His own danger?
- How does Christian react when Obstinate and Pliable come to force him back home? Does he simply reject their attempt, or does he attempt to evangelize them? Discuss.

**Assignment for next week:**

For next Wednesday night, please read pages 11-24 in the supplied book.

- **The Slough of Despond** (page 11)
- **Worldly Wiseman's Advice** (Page 14)
- and **Christian Knock at the Wicket Gate** (Page 21)

Fill out your worksheets, and look up the Biblical references in your Bible.

-I look forward to seeing you again, then!