Answer Key for Students

Pilgrim’s Progress: Course PL1
Mount Zion Bible Institute

Lesson 1  Conviction of Sin

Christian’s Pilgrimage
1. “Our city will be burned with fire from heaven, and we shall all come to ruin…” [some texts have “miserably” instead of “all”]
2. “His family was amazed. They thought some frenzy had seized him.”
3. a. “What must I do to be saved?”
   b. Personal answer.
4. a. “Sir, I am not fit to go to judgment.”
   b. Personal answer.
5. No, it did not matter. The only thing that matters is that we seek Jesus.
6. a. “His wife and children cried after him, but he put his fingers in his ears.”
   b. Personal answer.
7. a. The book was the book of the Law. It is not yet the complete Bible, because when the awakened sinner becomes aware of his sin (and the just punishment he deserves), it is by way of the Law.
   b. “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.”
8. a. Galatians 2:16, “Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ… for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.”
   b. Galatians 3:10, “…’Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.’”

An Unfriendly Neighbor
10. “Some mocked, others threatened, or cried to him to return. Two resolved to fetch him back by force.”
11. “‘What,’ said Obstinate, ‘and leave our friends and our comforts behind?’”
12. He means that there is a real heaven and a real hell, that God reigns supreme over everything forever, and that all men will be received into either heaven or hell where they will stay forever!

Lesson 2  Seeking the Savior

The Slough of Despond
1. a. “Is this the happiness you told me of?”
   b. Because Pliable had no burden of guilt over his own personal sin; he was only looking for some happiness (the benefits of Christ rather than Christ Himself).
   c. Mark 4:16-17  “And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the Word, immediately receive it with gladness; And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the Word’s sake, immediately they are offended.”
2. “‘This slough,’ said Help, ‘is caused by the many fears and doubts which settle here.’”

Worldly Wiseman’s Advice
3. “‘You should visit Legality and his son Civility,’ said Mr. Wiseman. ‘They’ll help.’”
4. a. Because when we try to keep the law without the grace of God, and with the motive to earn our own righteousness (in order to relieve the burden of guilt for sin), then the weight of our wrong-doing only gets greater, because we continue to fail. We do not ever keep the law perfectly—we are not able to do so.
   b. “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”
   c. Personal answer.
5. a. “‘Hear the Words of God!’ said Evangelist. ‘The just shall live by faith; but if any man draw back, My soul shall have no pleasure in him!’”
   b. “Be not faithless, but believing!” (See Matthew 12:31; John 20:27.)

Christian Knocks at the Wicket Gate
6. a. “‘A poor burdened sinner,’ Christian answered.” (See 1 Timothy 1:15.)
   b. Personal answer.
7. “For,’ he said, ‘Beelzebub shoots arrows at those coming up to the gate to try and kill them.’”
8. a. “It is as straight as a rule can make it—this is the way you must go.”
   b. “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 narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.” (NKJV: “difficult”)

**Lesson 3 Salvation**

**Christian at the Cross**
1. a. “As Christian came up to the cross, his burden fell off 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 no more.”
   b. “As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us.”
   c. “As Christian came up to the cross, his burden fell off his back…”
2. a. 2 Corinthians 5:21: “For He [God] hath made Him [Jesus] to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.”
   b. Romans 6:23: “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift 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 sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.”

**The Shining Ones**
3. a. “The first said, ‘Thy sins be forgiven thee.’” (Mark 2:5)
   b. “The second clothed him with a change of raiment [clothes]…”
   c. “The third set a mark on his forehead and gave him a roll with a seal upon it which he should give in at the Celestial City.”

**Simple, Sloth, and Presumption**
4. a. “Simple said: ‘I see no danger.’”
   b. “Sloth said: ‘Yet a little more sleep.’”
   c. “And Presumption: ‘Every vat (pot) must stand on its own bottom.’”
5. a. “Christian saw Formalist and Hypocrisy climbing over the wall.”
   b. “He quoted to them, ‘He that climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.’”

**The Hill of Difficulty**
6. “Better, though difficult, the right way to go, than wrong, though easy, where the end is woe.”
7. One became lost, and the other died (“stumbled and fell, and rose no more”).

**Christian’s Loss (Sleep in the Daytime)**
8. “The farther we go,’ panted Timorous, ‘the more we meet danger.”
9. a. Because he allowed himself to idly sleep, instead of remaining faithful to his calling.
   b. Much lost time, and the loss of delight in the progress of his journey.

**Lesson 4 Fellowship**

**The Palace “Beautiful”**
1. “Before him he espied two lions in the way, and was afraid to go on.”
2. a. “But Watchful, the porter, cried: ‘Fear not the lions, for they are chained.’”
   b. “They are there for the trial of faith.”
   c. 1 Peter 1:7: “That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.”
3. “The house was built for the relief and security of pilgrims,’ replied Watchful.”

**Christian Is Welcomed**
4. Discretion, Prudence, Piety, and Charity
5. a. “When I think what I saw at the Cross,’ answered Christian, ‘that will do it.’”
   b. Hebrews 12:1-3: “…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, Looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith…”
6. a. “They were afraid of losing this world’s foolish delights.”
   b. Personal answer.
7. a. “All their talk at the table was about the Lord of the Hill… who was a great warrior.”
   b. And… “had made many pilgrims [into] princes, though [by nature they were] beggars born.”
8. He was “harnessed from head to foot in what was proof [protection] against assaults.”
9. Ephesians 6:10-18: “…Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to **stand against** the wiles of the devil… Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to **withstand** in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”

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

**Lesson 5  Spiritual Warfare**

**Christian Fights Apollyon**

1. “He espied a **foul fiend** Apollyon coming to meet him.”
2. a. “You are one of my **subjects** since you have run away from your king.”
   b. They were very deceitful. The devil is the father of lies.
   c. Personal answer.
   d. “But I have let myself [given myself for service] to the **King of Princes**.”
3. “Then Apollyon, wrestling with him, gave him a dreadful fall. Christian’s sword **flew out** of his hand.”
4. “In all these things we are more than **conquerors** through Him that loved us!” (Romans 8:37; James 4:7)

**The Valley of the Shadow of Death**

5. “‘We looked before us and saw the Valley, **dark** as pitch. It is **dreadful**,’ they answered.” (See Numbers 13:32; Job 3:5, 10:22.)
6. “The pathway was exceeding narrow with a very **deep ditch** on the right hand, and a **dangerous quagmire** on the left. He sighed bitterly.”
7. “So Christian was forced to put up his sword, and take to the weapon of All - prayer. ‘O Lord, I beseech Thee,’ he cried, ‘deliver my soul.”
8. “Though I walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, I will **fear no evil**, for Thou art with me.”
9. Personal answer; the weapon to use is Prayer.

**Christian Meets Faithful**

10. a. “At this Christian, putting out all his strength, overran Faithful, …but did not take heed, and stumbled.”
   b. “He fell and could not rise again until Faithful came to help him. Then they went on very **lovingly** together…”
11. a. “I heard some of your neighbors **deridingly** speak of you and your desperate journey.”
   b. “Yet your neighbor Pliable, who came home bedabbled with the dirt of the Slough of Despond, they **mock and despise** as a turncoat.”
12. “What a **flattering tongue** she had. She lay at me hard to **turn aside** with her.”
13. a. What town did Adam the First live in?
   b. “At the foot of Hill Difficulty I met an aged man called Adam the First, who dwelt in the town of **Deceit**.”
   c. “His work, he said, was many **delights**, and his wages—that I should be his **heir** at last.”
   d. “Marry my daughters: Lust of the **Flesh**, Lust of the **Eyes**, and **Pride** of Life.”
14. “But looking on his forehead, I saw there written: ‘Put off the old man and his deeds.’”

**Lesson 6  The World**

**Vanity Fair**

1. “But you are not yet out of gunshot of the **devil**. You will come to a town where **enemies** will strain hard to kill you… Remember to acquit yourselves like men and commit your souls to **God**.”
2. Vanity Fair is exactly like the world today in several ways: 1) the world likes to buy pleasures, and they think that this is what “life” is all about, 2) the world likes to make money through buying and selling (look at advertising!) to meet ‘needs’ we don’t really have, 3) the world hates those who would tell it that it is wrong.
3. “When the pilgrims entered there was a **hubbub**, for their clothes and speech were **different**.”
4. a. “One mockingly chanced to say, ‘What will you **buy**?’”
   b. “They answered gravely, ‘We buy the **Truth**.’”
   c. “At that some **mocked**, some taunted, and some called on others to **smite** them. There was a great **stir**.”
5. a. Because the pilgrims were indeed different, and when the world is confronted by men of integrity who are different, it makes them very uncomfortable.
   b. Personal answer.
6. “The Pilgrims’ **meekness** and **patience** won several men to their side. This put the others in a **rage**.”

**The Trial of Faithful**

7. “They were accused of being enemies to the **trade** of Vanity Fair. The Judge was the Lord **Hate-good**.”
8. a. “**Envy** said: ‘I heard him affirm that Christianity and the **customs** of our town of Vanity were diametrically **opposite** and not to be reconciled.’”
   b. “**Superstition** said: ‘He is a **pest**.’”
   c. “**Pickthank** said: ‘He has reviled our Prince **Beelzebub**, and called you, my lord, an ungodly villain!’”

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**Student’s Answer Key   The Pilgrim’s Progress, course PL1   page 3   7/16/2015**
9. a. Personal answer.
   b. Faithful was a victor, on the authority of the Word of God.

Mr. By-ends

10. a. “Is not your name By-ends?” ‘My nickname, because I had always the luck to jump in my judgment with the way of the times.”
   b. All are good answers.
   c. Personal answer.

Lesson 7 False Teachings and Doubts

Mr. By-ends’ Companions

1. a. “‘They are so rigid,’ replied By-ends.”
   b. “That is bad,” said Save-all.”
2. “Mr. By-ends explained: ‘They conclude it is duty to journey in all weathers. I am for waiting for wind and tide. They are for holding their notions against all others. I am for safety.’”
3. “‘Should not a minister,’ said Mr. Money-love, ‘get better living by altering his principles, or a tradesman by becoming religious?’”

Christian Answers Hold-the-World

4. They each in their own way had adopted outward “religion,” in order to get what they selfishly wanted in the world.
5. “The man that takes up religion for the world will throw away religion for the world.”

The River of God

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

By-Path Meadow

7. a. “The pilgrims’ feet were tender from their travels. How they wished for a better way!”
   b. “Here is the easiest going,” called Christian.
8. “Vain-confidence fell into a deep pit made there on purpose by the Prince of those grounds to catch vain-glorious fools; and was dashed into pieces.”

Doubting Castle and Giant Despair

9. “‘You have trespassed on my grounds,’ said the giant, ‘so you must come along with me.’”
10. “There he put them into a very dark dungeon, nasty and stinking. They lay from Wednesday morning to Saturday night without one bit of bread or drop of drink or light. They were in a sorry state.”

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

12. a. Personal answer, hopefully to include the fact that when we are experiencing despair, it tends to want to hold us there, and torment us over some time.
   b. Personal answer. The only solution is faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

13. 1). (When the giant had gone) “Hopeful encouraged Christian. ‘How valiant you have been,’ he said. ‘Let us exercise a little more patience.’”
   2). “About midnight they began to pray 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 Promise that will, I am persuaded, open any lock in the Castle.’”
   a. Personal answer; all three can be reasonable answers.
   b. Personal answer. Each of the above is a progressive step toward freedom in Christ: 1) the saints encouraging one another, 2) praying, and 3) claiming the promises of God.

14. a. They had to retrace their steps exactly. They were not allowed to make any real lasting progress in any other way except the straight and narrow path that God had marked out for them. All “short-cuts” are the deceit of the world, the flesh, and the devil.
   b. Personal answer.

Lesson 8 Relationship, Not Religion

Memories of Faithful (Hopeful shares his conversion)

1. a. “I thought, ‘If a man runs into debt but later pays his way, the old debt still stands. I by my sins have run into God’s debt and my reforming now will not pay it off.’”
   b. “He told me that, unless I could obtain the righteousness of a man who had never sinned, not all the righteousness of the world could save me.”
2. “The Lord Jesus is the Mighty God and died for me, to whom His doings and worthiness should be imputed [given into my account] if I believed in Him.”
3. Personal answer.
4. a. “He looked on me and said: ‘My grace is sufficient for thee.’”
   b. “The beauty of Jesus made me love a holy life and long to fight for Him.”

**Ignorance Again**

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

6. a. “Unless the Word of God witnesses it, other testimony is of no value.”
   c. ‘The imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth.’”

7. “‘I will never believe that my heart is thus bad,’ replied Ignorance.”

8. a. “The Word of God says that a man’s ways are naturally perverse. Now, when a man thinks sensibly of his own ways, his heart in humility accepts that judgment.”
   b. “But Ignorance insisted that God would accept him because of his religious duties.”
   c. “It is not your actions but your heart that must be won over to God.”

9. a. “Have they at no time, do you think, convictions of sin and consequent fears that their state is dangerous?”
   b. Personal answer.

10. a. “I think they may, but desperately seek to stifle them.”
    b. Personal answer.

**Lesson 9 Entering Glory!**

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

1. a. “Here they heard continually the singing of birds and saw flowers appear.”
   b. “In this country the sun shines night and day.”

2. a. “…for it is beyond the Valley of the Shadow of Death, and out of reach of Giant Despair.”
   b. “Here they were in sight of the city they were going to.”
   c. “…because it was on the borders of heaven.”

3. Personal answer.

4. “…the gardens and vineyards were planted for the King’s delight and for the solace of pilgrims.”

**The River of Death**

5. a. “But there was no bridge over it, and the river was very deep. There was no way to escape the river.”
   b. “The men said, ‘You will find it deeper or shallower as you believe in the King.’”

6. a. “Christian began to sink and cried out.”
   b. But Hopeful said, ‘Be of good cheer, my brother. I feel the bottom and it is good.’”
   c. “Then a great darkness and horror fell upon Christian, so that he could not see before him. He feared that he would die in the river and never enter in at the gate.”
   d. “He was troubled with apparitions of hobgoblins and evil spirits.”

7. a. “‘My brother,’ cried Hopeful, ‘these troubles are no sign that God has forsaken you, but are sent to try you.’”
   b. “Be of good cheer! Jesus Christ makes you whole.”

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

**The Heavenly Jerusalem**

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

10. a. “The beauty of the place is inexpressible; their companions told them. ‘It is Mount Zion, the Heavenly Jerusalem.’”
    b. “You shall eat of the never-fading fruits of the tree of life and not know sorrow again, for there you shall see the Holy One as He is.”

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

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

13. a. “Then each of the pilgrims gave in the certificate which he had received in the beginning.”
   b. “When the King had read the certificates, He said, ‘Where are the men?’ He was answered, ‘They are standing without the gate.’ The King then commanded to open the gate. ‘The righteous nation which guards the truth,’ He said, ‘may enter in.’”

14. a. “As Christian and Hopeful entered the gate they were transfigured and had raiment put on that shone like gold.”
   b. “Then I heard in my dream that all the bells in the city rang again for joy.”
Lesson 10  The Fate of Ignorance

**The Fate of Ignorance**

1. “I saw Ignorance come to the river side. He soon got over, for one Vain-hope, a ferryman, helped him over in his boat. So he ascended the hill, and came to the gate, only he came alone.”

2. a. “He commanded the two Shining Ones to seize Ignorance and take him away and bind him hand and foot.”
   b. “They carried him to a door in the side of the hill and put him in there. Then I saw that there was a way to hell even from the very gates of heaven.”

3. Personal answer.

4. Optional end-of-course review question:
   a. City of Destruction: The place where Christian saw that all his deeds were guilty of violating God’s laws, and therefore, apart from Christ, would be judged by destruction. To avoid God’s just judgment upon him, he must leave that place and seek Christ.
   b. Christian: The man who sought Christ, was saved, walked with Christ throughout the rest of his life, and entered heaven after his death.
   c. Evangelist: The faithful witness of God’s Word and ways; the teller of good news.
   d. Obdurate: The man from the City of Destruction who thought Christian was wrong, and tried to get him back by force. When offered the chance to join, he did not want to leave his friends or comforts.
   e. Pliable: The man who was willing to try something new, as long as he thought he would get some happiness in it.
   f. Slough of Despond: The mire caused by fears and doubts, which in turn causes confusion to obscure wholesome instruction.
   g. Worldly Wiseman: The “wise” man who told Christian how to get his burden (of the guilt of his sin) off his back in an easy way, by doing good works to ease his conscience.
   h. Legality in the village of Morality: The man (method) suggested by Worldly Wiseman for removing guilt without the sacrifice of the cross. But trying to be good enough for God only increased the weight of his guilt.
   i. The Wicket Gate: The entrance into the narrow way which leads to the Cross; it is the only way to come there.
   j. The Straight Way: The straight and narrow way which not only leads to the Cross, but is the path marked out by God for all true Christians to follow in this life.
   k. The Cross: The place of salvation from sin, by God’s sending Christ as our Substitute to pay the full penalty for our sin. Jesus Christ took our death there, that we might now have His life! Note: the only thing necessary for Christian to “do” to receive the removal of his burden, was to look up at Christ and His sacrifice on the cross.
   l. Christian’s new coat (“raiment”): The pure white clothing of Christ’s righteousness which every believer receives at conversion.
   m. Formalist: The man who attempted to get into the way to heaven without first coming to Christ at the Cross.
   n. Hill of Difficulty: One of the many trials which God has designed for our testing and purification. Difficulties are used of God to teach us to lean on Christ for our strength.
   o. Timorous: One of two men who came running back from the top of the Hill of Difficulty, convinced that the way of God was too dangerous for them and that they could not trust Him further.
   p. Arbor of sleeping: A place designed for refreshment, but which turned into a stumbling block for Christian when he abused his privilege there by idly sleeping.
   q. Christian’s “roll.” The “roll” represents the Bible, with instructions and encouragements for along the way.
   r. Palace Beautiful: The wonderful place of rest and fellowship, and further learning about the ways of God.
   s. Prudence: One of the pure believers who shared true fellowship with Christian, and questioned him carefully to ensure his thinking was according to God’s Word.
   t. Apollyon: The devil, who by deceit and terrible spiritual attack attempted to destroy Christian.
   u. Valley of the Shadow of Death: The deep fears that believers sometimes face, where the enemy causes us to think that God could never forgive us, because of the many horrible thoughts that come into our minds.
   v. Faithful: The man who was faithful to God and His ways, no matter the consequences in this life.
   w. Vanity Fair: A picture of the values of the world we live in: pride, possessions, and pleasure; and contempt for those who do not join in.
   x. Hate-good: The judge at Faithful’s trial, who found nothing of value in Faithful’s character.
   y. Envy: One of the witnesses at Faithful’s trial, who was motivated by envy to destroy him.
   z. Hopeful: The fellow pilgrim who became Christian’s close and trusted friend.
   aa. Mr. By-ends: A man who would accomplish his desires by saying or being whatever others wanted him to, in order to be accepted and be successful in this world. (The “end justifies the means.”)
   bb. Hold-the-World: One of By-ends companions, who thought that outward religion was a useful tool to get more in the world (as long as he did not have to give up anything in the world).
   cc. River of God: Another place of refreshment for the weary believer, reflecting close spiritual communion between the saint and God.
   dd. By-path Meadow: The deceptive detour, which appeared to go the same way as God’s narrow way, and appeared to be easier, but in fact only lead to doubt and despair.
   ee. Giant Despair: The powerful giant who takes captive those who profess to be believers, who leave the narrow way. He proved that he could not be resisted in the believers’ own strength.
   ff. Doubting Castle: The place where Despair holds those who profess to be believers and have left the narrow way.
   gg. Key of Promise: The promises of God from God’s Word, in this case also memorized and used at the needful moment to unlock the dungeon of their doubts. (God’s promises are eternally true; our doubts are deceptions.)
   hh. Ignorance from Conceit: The saddest case perhaps in the whole book, who stubbornly held onto his own “views” even when confronted with the truth of the Bible. He had an unteachable spirit. He relied on his own understanding rather than the truths which Christian presented to him. His basic error was in thinking that his own heart could not be all bad, and that God would accept him because of his religious “goodness.”
   ii. Country of Beulah: The place of Christian maturity, where those on the narrow way have come after years of walking with the Lord and learning of his ways. It is a place of continual peace and joy, not because there are no more problems or sinful failures, but because the believer has learned that Christ is his life and strength. He trusts Christ rather than himself in all of life’s experiences, and more and more with each new day.
jj. Shining Ones: These are God’s “ministering spirits.” We could think of them as God’s Spirit comforting our souls and communicating His truth to us (or they could be God’s angels).

kk. River of Death: This is a picture of physical death; as Bunyan says, “there was no way to escape the river.”

ll. Celestial City: Heaven.

mm. Christian’s and Hopeful’s Certificates: The believer’s “certificate of adoption” into the family of God (marking the new birth).

Thank you for your work in studying the salvation and life of a Christian through this course.