

## THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS PART 2 - THE OLD RUGGED CROSS

Warm ups:

- 1) How many hymns (esp. In Lent) focus on the cross?
  - Which one is your favorite?
- 2) Is being a Christian easy or hard? (**Matthew 11:28-30**)
- 3) What is the benefit of being part of a Church?

### Scene 7 - Come to the cross

- 1) Why is Christian still carrying his burden?
  - Hasn't he already come to faith?
  - Can't he just undo the straps?
- 2) Describe Christian's experience once his burden was loosed?
- 3) Look at **Philippians 2:12-13**. How do you "work out your salvation"?
  - Is this in opposition to "by grace ye are saved"?
- 4) What was the role of the first angel (**Romans 5:1**)
- 5) What did the second "shining one" do / say? (**Zechariah 3:3-5**)
- 6) What was the purpose of the third angel? (**Revelation 22:4**)
- 7) What certificate and seal have we received to mark us as God's own children?

### Scene 8 - The company you keep

- 1) What does it mean to be spiritually "asleep"?
- 2) What does it mean to be "simple" (**Proverbs 1:32-33**)
- 3) Why is laziness such a hazard? (**Proverbs 6:1-11**)
- 4) How can arrogance turn a Christian from the Way? (**Philippians 2:3**)
- 5) How does every Christian face these three on their faith journey?
- 6) How do formalism and hypocrisy get on the path? (**John 10:1**)
- 7) Are these two the origin of the mindset - "All roads lead to God"?
- 8) What is "formalism" in a religious sense? Why is it so dangerous?
- 9) How do many make the argument that there's no difference between Christians and Hypocrites in our world today?

### **Scene 9 - The Hill of Difficulty**

- 1) What does this obstacle represent in the life of a believer?
- 2) Consider the following from G. K. Chesterton; “Christianity has not been tried and found too difficult. It is seen as too difficult and so is left untried.”
- 3) Why does God allow difficulties as we seek to follow Him?
  - **James 1:2-5**
  - **I Peter 4:12-13**
  - **II Corinthians 1:3-5**
- 4) What does the arbor represent (**Psalm 23:1-3**)
- 5) How easy is it to drift off into spiritual sleep? (See scene 8)
- 6) What does Christian lose as a result of his slumber?
- 7) What does this represent in a Christian’s life?

### **Scene 10 - We have nothing to fear but fear itself.**

- 1) Look at **Numbers 13:25-33**. How do nervousness and mistrust afflict God’s people?
- 2) How did Christian keep Himself from panicking?
- 3) How did Christian’s past sins come back to haunt him? What was the cost?

### **Scene 11 - Entrance to the Palace Beautiful**

- 1) What does the palace represent according to **Matthew 16:18**?
- 2) What do the lions (I Peter 5:8) symbolize?
- 3) How does the porter steer Christian safely through the lions?
  - What does this tell us about facing opposition in our own pilgrimage?
- 4) Who does Watchman (**Isaiah 62:6**) represent in ancient Israel? Today?
- 5) Why does Watchman interview Christian? How is this done today?
- 6) For whom does Watchman call? (**Proverbs 2:11**)
- 7) Why is it important to identify ourselves with a body of believers?

### **Scene 12 - Dinner with Piety, Prudence, and Charity**

- 1) Why is sharing our faith story with other believers important?
- 2) What is Piety?

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  - How is this different from Pietism?
  - What types of questions does she ask to assess Christian's spiritual maturity?
- 3) Read **II Peter 1:5-7**. What did Peter urge believers to add to their faith? Why?
- 4) What is Prudence? (Besides a common puritan name)
- 5) What types of questions does she ask of Christian?
- 6) Look at **Romans 7:16-19**. Why does our past way of life still call to us?
- 7) What is Charity? (The Biblical, not cultural meaning)
- 8) What does her line of questioning lead Christian to discover?
- 9) See **I Corinthians 13:1-3**. What becomes of our good works if not done in love (charity)?

#### **Scene 14 - Suiting up for battle**

- 1) What is meant by sharing a meal (breaking bread) together?
- 2) What is the main topic of conversation around the table?
- 3) What is the significance of going to sleep in a room named Peace (**Psalm 4:8**)
- 4) What are some of the "treasures" of the palace that Christian is shown?
- 5) Why is Christian asked to stay for one more day?
- 6) Look at **II Corinthians 10:3-4**. How is Christian equipped for his journey?
- 7) Is it more dangerous going down a mountain than up? (**Psalm 94:17-18**)

For next week - The battle with Appolyon to arrival at Vanity Fair