



discussion guide for

Megsie

A Pilgrim's Progress

**QUESTIONS MAY
CONTAIN PLOT POINTS
OR SPOILERS**



KEY SCRIPTURES:

Psalms 84:5

Blessed is the man whose strength is in You, whose heart is set on pilgrimage.

Psalms 16:11

You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy.

Hebrews 11:13-16

...they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.



Removing the backpack at the cross is an iconic scene in *The Pilgrim's Progress*; how does the backpack represent sin?

As discussed by the curious Gamers who play the Game of Fundamentals, why did Jesus have to die on the cross for our sins? (Genesis 3)

As further discussed by the Gamers, discuss why Jesus (and therefore, Christianity) expresses an exclusive worldview? Read and discuss John 14:6; 1 Timothy 2:5; Acts 2:16-33; Philippians 2:5-11

The Gamers state that “you can’t play the Game of Fundamentals if you don’t play by the rules”? What do you think this means in terms of the Christian faith?

Megs'ie's companions are basically-faith, hope, love, and heavenly help. Discuss each of these things and the role that they play in the Christian walk.

Madam Bubble/Annie Everett states that God is “the God of second chances”. What does this say about the nature of God?

Contrast this with the ultimate penalty for rebellion against God—that is, hell. (2 Thessalonians 1:3-10)

Hell is not a popular topic nowadays, as symbolized in the film by Folly and Chitchat's ghastly fate of being turned into permanent ornaments.

Discuss the common question of “why would a loving God send people to hell”? Does God send people to hell? (2 Peter 3:9) Why do you think God sets out very firm boundaries of right and wrong, godliness and sin? What is the purpose of humankind's existence?

How does Jesus' own statement that He is the only way (John 14:6) trump all other beliefs, philosophies, and religions?



II Timothy 3:1-9 describes unbelievers as “always learning but never able to come to the knowledge of the truth”, and that “they will progress no further, for their folly will be manifest to all,” a perfect description of the character of Folly- a pilgrim who never progresses!

How can a person “learn, but never come to the knowledge of the truth”? In the film, how does Folly learn things without ever obtaining the truth?

**Discuss Megs'ie's weapons, and how God's Word is like a sword and a key and a light.
(Hebrews 4:12)**

How can His Word be a weapon in daily life? How can the joy of the Lord be your strength, especially in unjoyful times?

Folly's, well, folly is that she misinterprets (and misuses) Romans 3:21-26, which states that “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.”

Folly has universalist thinking, that all roads lead to Rome. It's the idea that you can believe anything you want, but in the end, Jesus justified everyone so we'll all make it into heaven. . .no matter what you do, think, or believe in your lifetime.

Contrast this belief with Scripture, such as Acts 4:11-12, John 14:6, Philippians 2:5-11, Ephesians 4:4-6, Hebrews 13:8, Malachi 3:6, etc.

Discuss being “justified freely through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.” What does Folly misunderstand about this concept? What is the passage really talking about? Why does the idea of “justification without repentance” actually *negate* Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection?

FROM NOVEL TO SCREEN:

Megsie. . . .based on *Christian and Christiana*

Madam Bubble. . . .based on the character of the same name

Serpentia DeSeever. . . .based on *Apollyon the dragon* (the devil)

Mr. Whirlywise. . . .based on *Worldly Wiseman*

Avail. . . .based on *Help*

Evangeline. . . .based on *Evangelist*

Leap. . . .based on *Faithful*

The Firefly. . . .based on *Hope*

Folly. . . .based on *Ignorance*

Chitchat. . . .based on *Talkative*

Mrs. Feebles. . . .based on *Feeble-Mind*

The Judge. . . .based on *Judge Hate-Good*

Riddle Boy and Lookit. . . .based on *The Interpreter*

Very Nicely. . . .based on *Piety*

Moneybox. . . .based on *Charity*

Nasty & Naughty. . . .based on the temptations in the Valley

Pickthank. . . .based on the character of the same name

The Slough of Despond. . . .is Despondent Avenue

Calvery. . . .is the Crossroads

The Valley of the Shadow of Death. . . .is The Valley Borough

Vanity Fair. . . .is The Funhouse

Giant Despair's Castle. . . .is The Judge's Jail Cell