

Pilgrim's Progress

On Sunday the 12th of July 2026, 11 Pilgrims set out from the City of Destruction (Tugby). The Pilgrims, all named Christian, strangely, were led by Evangelist.

Pilgrimage simply means journey, a Christian Pilgrimage is a journey closer to Christ, so here's the background to Pilgrim's Progress.

It was written by John Bunyan in 1678. He had a dream whilst in jail, which became the story in the book. Why was he in jail? He was in jail for unauthorised preaching and sentenced to 12 years imprisonment. The book has been in continuous print since 1678, and has been translated into over 200 languages.

Every Christian was given a stone, representing their burdens. Evangelist advised everyone to leave the City of Destruction and to take the narrow path, with the strict warning not to leave the narrow path as that leads to death and destruction.

On the first hill, we encountered the cross, everyone was invited to lay down their burdens at the cross. After leaving our burdens at the cross, everyone received a scroll, with the warning don't lose it, it's your ticket into the Celestial City.

At this point, Evangelist left us, but we met up with a new companion called Faithful, an old friend we knew who had also fled the City of Destruction.

We hadn't journeyed too far beyond the cross, when Faithful found a key of faithfulness, he gave the key to Christian with the instruction, don't lose faithfulness you will need it!

After encountering many trials and tribulations, Faithful and Christian encountered Giant Despair, unfortunately Faithful was killed for his faith (Martyred).

Christian was imprisoned by Giant Despair, it was at this moment Christian remembered the key of faithfulness! You won't believe it, the key opened the prison door and Christian made good his escape.

Christian's next problem was the River with no bridge, which Christian needed to cross. After successfully crossing the river, it was explained the river represented death and everyone at sometime must cross it.

We finally arrived at the Celestial City (Goadby) where we faced the Gatekeeper, who checked everyone had a scroll to gain entry.

The Celestial City was beautiful, sunny and warm with many people already there. We entered the city just in time to enjoy cold drinks, a BBQ and live music provided by Kevin Downham.

Hope you enjoyed reading our pilgrimage journey, and we hope you can join us on the next one!

Blessings
Evangelist and Faithfulness.