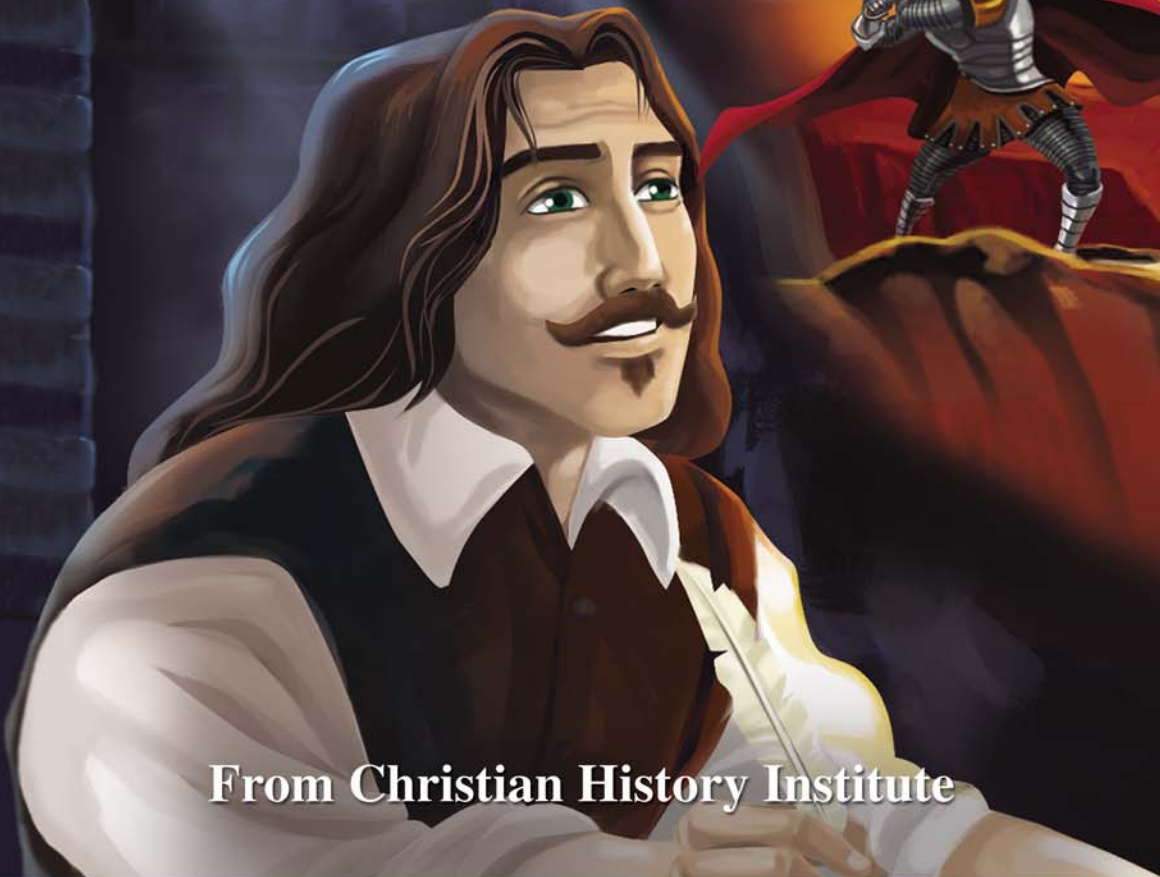




THE  
**TORCHLIGHTERS**  
HEROES OF THE FAITH

Leader's Guide for the DVD

**The John  
Bunyan  
Story**



From Christian History Institute

L E A D E R



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# Introduction to the Torchlighters Series

**Torchlighter:** *One who commits to serving God  
and passing on the light of the Gospel,  
even if the going gets tough.*

Kids today have no shortage of heroes. From Hollywood celebrities, to music artists and sports figures, it would seem that there are plenty of heroes to go around. The heroes being offered up by popular culture are teaching children that physical perfection, financial success, and fame are the most important goals in life. The morals and values presented by these heroes are often in direct opposition to the standards parents want to pass on to their children. So, while there is no shortage of heroes, there is a dreadful shortage of heroes worth emulating.

*The Torchlighters* video series has been created to offer children real heroes that are worth emulating. The heroes we choose to portray have lived truly great lives—lives marked by moral depth, strength of character, and an unswerving commitment to faith. By sharing in their struggles and small steps of obedience, we are all challenged to live lives of faith. It is our sincere desire that as children get to know these “torchlighters,” they will be challenged to follow in the footsteps of the greatest torchlighter of them all, Jesus Christ.

Learn more about the mission behind this new series at

**[www.torchlighters.org](http://www.torchlighters.org)**

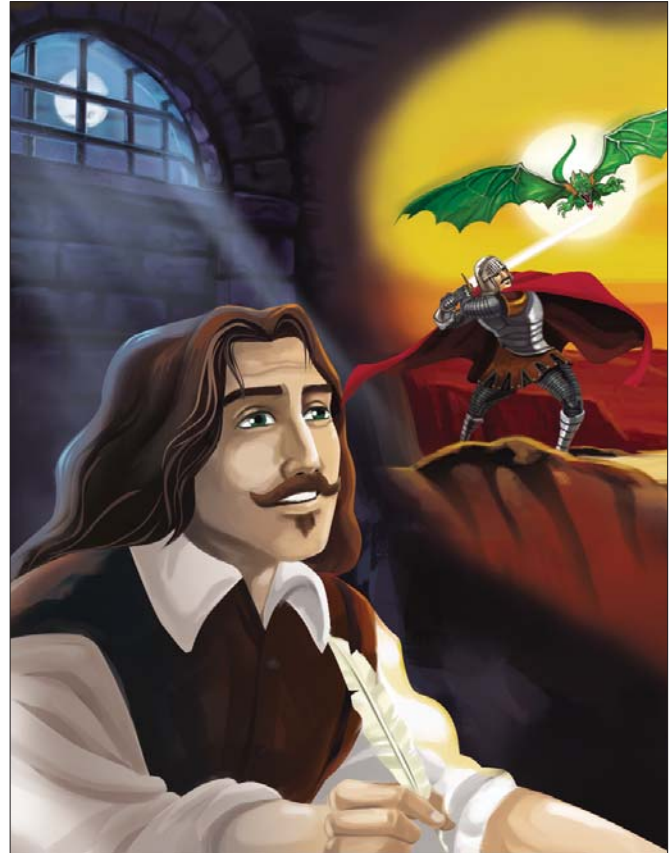


## Synopsis of *The Torchlighters:* *The John Bunyan Story*

John Bunyan is a hard-working family man. As a tinker, he goes from town to town, mending pots and pans for all who will pay. He's put aside the pranks of youth and is trying hard to live a good clean life. No cursing, no fighting and no stealing! But despite all his efforts, John can't free himself from a heavy burden of guilt. Fear of eternal damnation haunts him day and night.

Finally, a chance meeting helps John to understand that he must hand his sin over to the One who can carry the load. Once he's free of the burden of guilt, John is like a new man. Nothing can stop him from sharing the good news of salvation with others. Before long, this uneducated tinker is preaching to crowds that are hungry for solid spiritual food.

There's just one problem. Preaching outside of the official church is illegal in England in 1660. When the authorities learn of the tinker-preacher and the large crowds coming to hear him, they draw up the necessary papers and send their officers to do the dirty work. If Bunyan preaches even one sentence, he will be arrested and thrown into prison. With his wife, his children and his congregation watching, John Bunyan steps to the pulpit. With a glance toward the waiting officers and their arrest warrant, Bunyan takes a deep breath and begins his sermon. He would rather follow his calling and suffer the consequences than cower in fear as a free man.



Once in prison, John's ministry continues in a new way. The man with little education and much personal grief uncovers a distinct talent for writing. After completing several non-fiction books, John begins the most important work of his life. *The Pilgrim's Progress* follows the struggle of a Christian Pilgrim to stay true to his beliefs, avoid temptations, and remain on the narrow path to reach heaven. Published in 1678, this book's description of Christianity as a journey containing both highs and lows has impacted countless millions of people. After the Bible, it has been the most circulated Christian work of all time.

John Bunyan's life was filled with challenges and victories. No matter what his circumstances, this "torchlighter" followed God to the fullest. Like the main character in his book, Bunyan used all his gifts and resources to press on through thick and thin. His message still rings true today.





## Teaching Plan for *The John Bunyan Story*

**1. PREVIEW *The John Bunyan Story* before showing it to your students.** This will help you to recognize major themes and teachable moments that occur throughout the video. In addition, you will gain a better understanding of the flow of the story and will be equipped to answer questions the kids may have.

Major teaching themes for this episode include:

- Faith in God should change the way you live.
- Christianity is a journey filled with both good and difficult experiences.
- We can serve God even when going through trials.
- It is sometimes necessary to stand up to human authority in order to do what God is calling you to do.
- God can use many different kinds of gifts and talents to further His kingdom.
- A lack of formal education or a troubled background should never be an excuse for not serving God.

**2. REVIEW the Supplementary Information.** Become more informed on this true story by reading through “The 17th Century World of John Bunyan” (pages 12-13), “Chronology of John’s Story” (pages 14-15), and “The Main Players in the John Bunyan Story” (page 16). These materials will help fill in details of John Bunyan’s life and prepare you to answer questions.

**3. SELECT and PREPARE Teaching Material.** Follow the four lessons plans we have provided, or mix and match the materials in a new way. All material is reproducible and designed to help children apply the teaching themes. Be sure to consider the age of your students and the time you have available.

**4. VISIT [www.torchlighters.org](http://www.torchlighters.org).** The materials in this guide and the Student Pages are just the beginning. Visit our website for other free resources, such as unique ministry ideas, publicity posters, interactive Kids Zone, and the “Carry the Torch” theme song, craft and relay! If you are planning a teaching series based on *The Torchlighters*, consider using the theme song, craft, and relay as part of an introductory session focused on the question “What is a Torchlighter?”

**Are you planning a *Torchlighters* showing or event?**

**Publicity is easy when you download free posters at**

**[www.torchlighters.org](http://www.torchlighters.org)**



## Session 1 – Lighten Your Load

**FOCUS:** When we put our faith in Jesus, we lay aside the burdens that can weigh us down. Life is a journey including highs and lows.

- **BACKPACK OF BURDENS RELAY** — Prepare two backpacks with heavy items inside, such as medium sized stones. Be sure the total weight is not too much for the students. Divide the class into two teams. The teams will have a relay race, carrying the backpacks. In turn, they race to the end and remove one item from the pack, then return to the line and hand off the pack to the next person. The teacher times the races. Following this, run the race again with empty packs. Which times are faster? Discuss: *Why was it easier to race without the heavy weights? What kinds of things can weigh us down in life? How could faith in Jesus help us to live our lives with fewer burdens?*  
**Enrichment idea:** Label the backpack objects with words like: Pride, peer-pressure, perfectionism, worry, hard times, etc.
- **LAY DOWN YOUR BURDENS (p. 3 in Student Guide)** — Use this worksheet to help students connect to the idea of releasing our burdens to God.
- **MY STORY SO FAR TIMELINE (p. 4 in Student Guide)** — This activity is designed to help kids to see their life as a story that is unfolding and is not yet complete. Save these pages for further use in session 4. Give each child a copy of the empty timeline (**p. 4 in Student Guide**). Some suggested events might be the birth of siblings, changing schools, achievements, accidents, vacations, death of a loved one, etc. Invite students to share their stories and discuss how each person's experiences or "journey" is unique.
- **THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS READING** — Share a portion of the book *The Pilgrim's Progress*, or read a children's version of the book. Discuss the journey of Christian, the main character in the book. Say: Next time we will see a DVD about the life of the man who wrote this book. We will learn about his life's journey and how this book has impacted the world.

Note: Refer to the answer key on page 20 for answers to selected student pages.



## Session 2 – Choose Faith

**FOCUS:** View *The John Bunyan Story* and discuss the key concepts.

- **REVIEW** — review concepts covered last time: We are each on a unique life journey. If we live our lives with Christ, he will help to carry our burdens and will help us through difficult times.
- **INTRODUCE THE DVD** — Ask: *Do you find it easier to serve God when things are going well for you or when you are having a difficult trial?* Allow the class to respond then say: *Today we will see a DVD about a man who went through a lot of hard times, yet he continued to find ways to serve God. In fact, his most important work is still used to teach people about God today, more than 300 years after he died. As you watch the story of John Bunyan, I want you to look for two things. Look for the hardships he faced and also for the many ways he served God.*
- **SHOW** the 30-minute program *The Torchlighters: The John Bunyan Story*.
- **QUESTIONS** — Allow students time to process the film and ask questions. Use the pages “Story Mix-Up” and “Matching Game” to help review the story. **(pp. 11 and 12 in Student Guide)**
- **DISCUSSION** — Use the pages “Dig into the Story” and/or “Dig Deeper” to lead discussion and help students apply key concepts. **(pp. 5 and 6 in Student Guide)**
- **PARENT LETTER** — Distribute this letter to help parents understand this torchlighter and the lessons you are sharing in class. **(p. 11 in Leader's Guide)**

Note: Refer to the answer key on page 20 for answers to selected student pages.



## Session 3 – Share Your Talents

**FOCUS:** We're all responsible to use the gifts we've been given in service to the Lord, no matter what our circumstances.

- **PRISON MINISTER INTERVIEW (p. 7 in Student Guide)** — Invite someone who is involved in prison ministry to visit your class for this session. Use the suggested questions on the “Prison Minister Interview” page to get the discussion started.
- **GIFTS AND TALENTS SHEET (p. 8 in Student Guide)** — Use this sheet to help students think through various talents they have. Discuss how their talents could be used in serving God. Ask: *What talents did John Bunyan have and how did he use them for God?*
- **STORY MIX-UP (p. 11 in Student Guide)** – Use this activity to review the story of John Bunyan and share his story with the guest.
- **STORIES WITH LESSONS ACTIVITY (p. 10 in Student Guide)** — After students complete the activity, use the questions and suggestions at the bottom of the sheet to help them apply the concepts.

**SERVICE PROJECT** — Say: *God calls us to use our gifts and talents to serve Him. What excuses have you heard people use for not serving Him?* (Answers might include: Not enough time, don't have the right skills, no opportunities, not enough confidence, someone else will do it). Choose a simple service project that your students can complete in class. Ideas include: making cards for shut-ins, assembling care packages for a local ministry in need, or even folding the church bulletins for the morning. Other ideas are listed at the bottom of the Prison Minister Interview sheet (p. 7 in the Student Guide).

Note: Refer to the answer key on page 20 for answers to selected student pages.





## Session 4 – Stand Strong

**FOCUS:** God provides us with Spiritual Tools that can help us in our battle against sin and temptation.

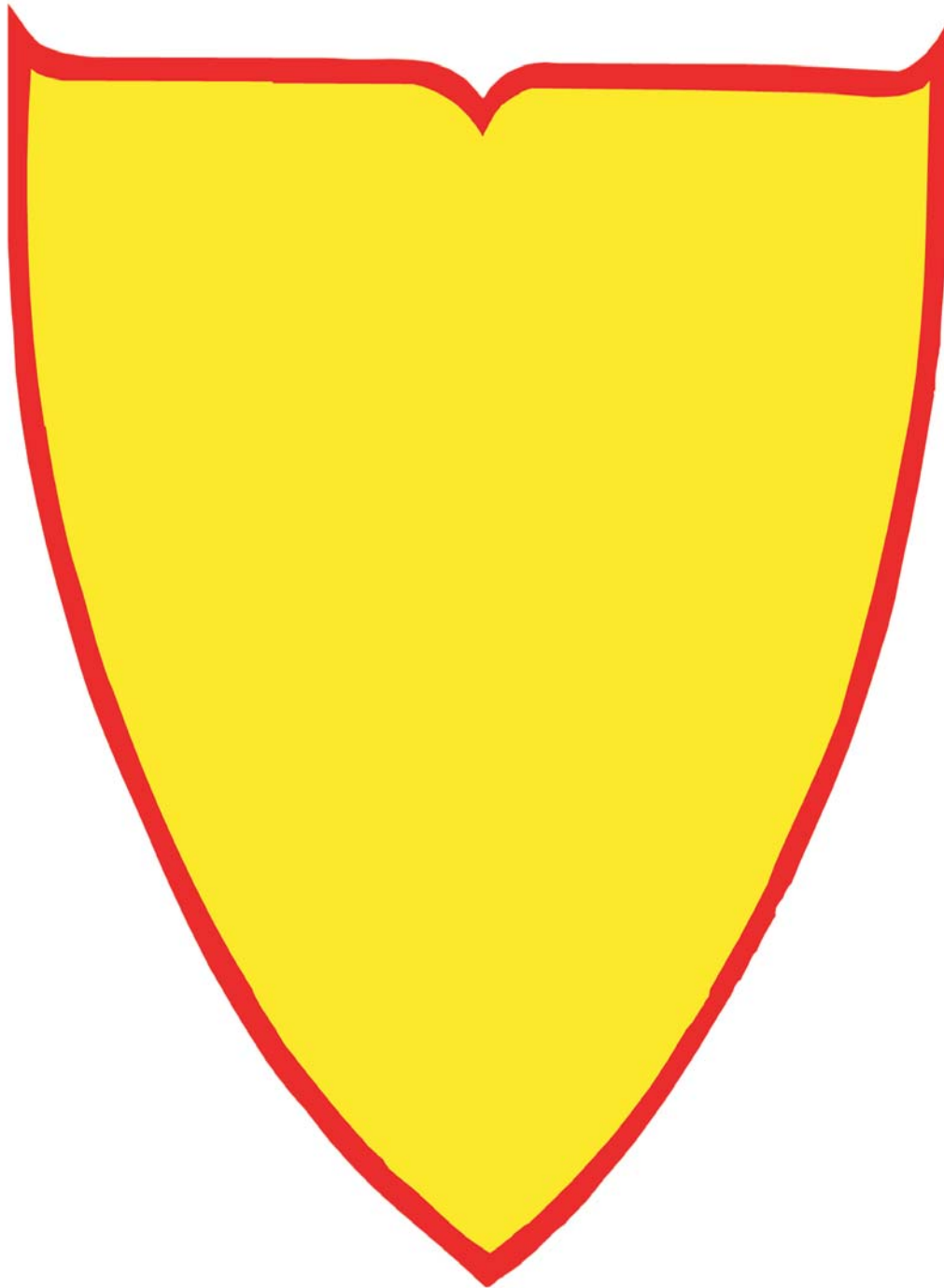
- **ARMOR OF GOD WORD ACTIVITY (p. 9 in student guide)** — Use this activity to acquaint your class with the Armor of God.
- **SHIELD OF FAITH CRAFT** — See next page. Ask: *What is armor used for? What does “spiritual armor” mean? Let’s look up Ephesians 6:10-18 to find out what kind of armor we need to stand against evil.*
- **MY STORY CONTINUES ACTIVITY** — Pull out the Timeline pages the class made in session 1. Discuss: *Our stories or life journeys are still in progress. Imagine your journey over the next ten years. What do you think your life will be like in two years? Five years? Ten years? What new struggles, temptations or challenges will you face in those years? Invite your class to extend their timeline into the future. What will help you to face new bigger challenges as you get older? How can dealing with small challenges today help you with bigger challenges in the future?*
- **THE PILGRIM’S PROGRESS BOARD GAME** — John Bunyan’s book *The Pilgrim’s Progress* was his attempt at expressing the truth about our earthly journey towards a heavenly home. We have prepared a board game to help you build on these concepts. Retrieve the game from your DVD or go to [www.torchlighters.org](http://www.torchlighters.org) to download the game, playing pieces and the instructions.

Note: Refer to the answer key on page 20 for answers to selected student pages.



## Craft Corner: Shield of Faith

Give each student an 8 1/2 X 11" sheet of poster board. Using the pattern below, have students cut out a shield from the poster board. Give each student a strip of aluminum foil so they can cover their shield. Read Ephesians 6:10-18 with your students. Ask: *What kind of shield does Paul recommend we carry? How will this shield help us in our battle against evil?* Distribute permanent markers so students can write "FAITH" on their shields. Use masking tape to attach a handle of elastic to the back of the shields.



Dear Parents,

Today in Sunday school, your child viewed a *Torchlighters* DVD depicting the life of the famous Christian author, John Bunyan. John Bunyan was a simple man of humble origins. As a young man, he became a Christian and soon felt the call to preach. Unfortunately for Bunyan, in 17th century England it was illegal for anyone other than ordained clergymen to preach. Bunyan chose to follow his calling and preach anyway. Even after being arrested, he did not stop serving the Lord. During his years in prison, John Bunyan wrote the most influential work of Christian fiction of all time: *The Pilgrim's Progress*.

John Bunyan is a terrific role model for children. He willingly used all the talents God gave him to further the kingdom, even when facing great obstacles. We hope this experience of learning through one of God's heroes of faith was a meaningful one for your child. If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to share them.

Sincerely,



## The 17th Century World of John Bunyan

Bunyan's life spanned one of the most turbulent periods in English history. At the time of his birth, the common man enjoyed many new freedoms due to the Right to Petition Act of 1628. During his lifetime, his fellow Englishmen founded colonies in the New World, beheaded their king and imprisoned religious dissenters. England changed from a Catholic nation to a Protestant nation, to something in between before finally adopting greater religious freedom. The Glorious Revolution, which gave Parliament governing authority and effectively stripped the Monarchy's power occurred around the time of Bunyan's death. It was in the midst of this political and religious upheaval that John Bunyan's life unfolded.

This turbulent period in England was inaugurated about a hundred years before John Bunyan's birth. Under King Henry VIII, with the support of Parliament, the Church in England cut all ties with the Vatican. This action was taken as a result of the Pope's refusal to annul Henry's marriage to Catharine of Aragon so he could marry Anne Boleyn. This greatly excited some religious leaders in England who had been impacted by the Protestant reformers, such as Martin Luther and John Calvin, and wanted to bring about a similar change in Britain. Some in England sarcastically referred to these English reformers as "puritans" because of their zeal to purify the Church of England from the trappings of Catholicism.

This process of purification came to a halt when Henry's daughter Mary took the throne and attempted to return the Church of England to its Catholic roots. This forced many Puritans to flee England and seek refuge on the Continent where Protestant ideas were more acceptable. However, other Puritans chose to remain in England to weather the storm.

In 1558, Henry's daughter Elizabeth ascended the throne, invigorating the English Puritans because of her supposed Protestant leanings. Unfortunately for the Puritans, the Queen was more concerned with establishing political stability than religious beliefs and the Church of England took a moderate position between the Protestant and Catholic faiths.

Some of the Puritans who fled Mary's reign decided not to return to England when Elizabeth ascended the throne, setting out for the New World instead. On September 6, 1620, about eight years before Bunyan's birth, they boarded a ship named the Mayflower, sailed across the Atlantic Ocean and settled in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Around 1628, the year of Bunyan's birth, another group of Puritans became disenchanted with the slow rate of change inside the Church of England and set sail for the New World. They hoped to plant Puritan religious ideals in the Americas and establish a "city upon a hill."

Bunyan's parents had him baptized in the Church of England in November, 1628. Later in life, he claimed to have had numerous religious experiences in his youth, but had never been very serious about his faith. When he was a teenager, his mother died and his father quickly remarried. This angered young John and he joined the Puritan forces, known as the New Model Army, to fight in the war that



was brewing between King Charles I and the Parliament. The English reformers had worked for purification of the Church of England for a century and a half, but in the 1640's, they decided to take up arms to accomplish their goals. Although religion played a crucial role in the Civil War, there were numerous political causes as well.

Bunyan served a number of years in the Puritan ranks without seeing much combat. Oliver Cromwell, also a Puritan, emerged as the leader of the Parliamentary forces and led them to victory over King Charles' forces. When Charles was captured, he was tried as a tyrant and beheaded. England was declared a Republic and Cromwell became Lord Protector. For a time, England became a Puritan nation. It was during this period that the Westminster Confession of Faith was written.

In 1660, Charles II, son of Charles I, was called to ascend the throne in England. Because of Puritan tyranny under Cromwell, the English people grew weary of religious wars and bestowed extensive powers to the king, who used the power to stifle religious diversity. It was during this period that Bunyan spent time in prison for his divergent teachings. Some, such as the young Quaker William Penn, were so outraged by the lack of religious liberty that they left England for the New World. Penn received a land grant from the king to settle a colony, which he named Pennsylvania, where religious toleration was established as the law of the land.

Eventually, the tyranny of the monarchy became too much for England, which led to the Glorious Revolution of 1688 or the "Bloodless Revolution." Parliament invited William of Orange and his consort, Mary, to reign as sovereigns of England. This coup was bloodless because the reigning king, James II, fled to France, clearing the way for the arrival of the new king and queen. The Monarchs and Parliament passed the Toleration Act and the Bill of Rights in 1689 redefining the relationship between the King and Parliament. No longer could the King levy taxes without consent or have a standing army during times of peace. Most importantly, the crown must tolerate those who dissented from the Anglican Church. Of course, the new freedoms came too late for John Bunyan. Yet, his great faith, expressed through creative genius, thrived amid the turbulence of his day. Indeed, his work continues to bless many even now.





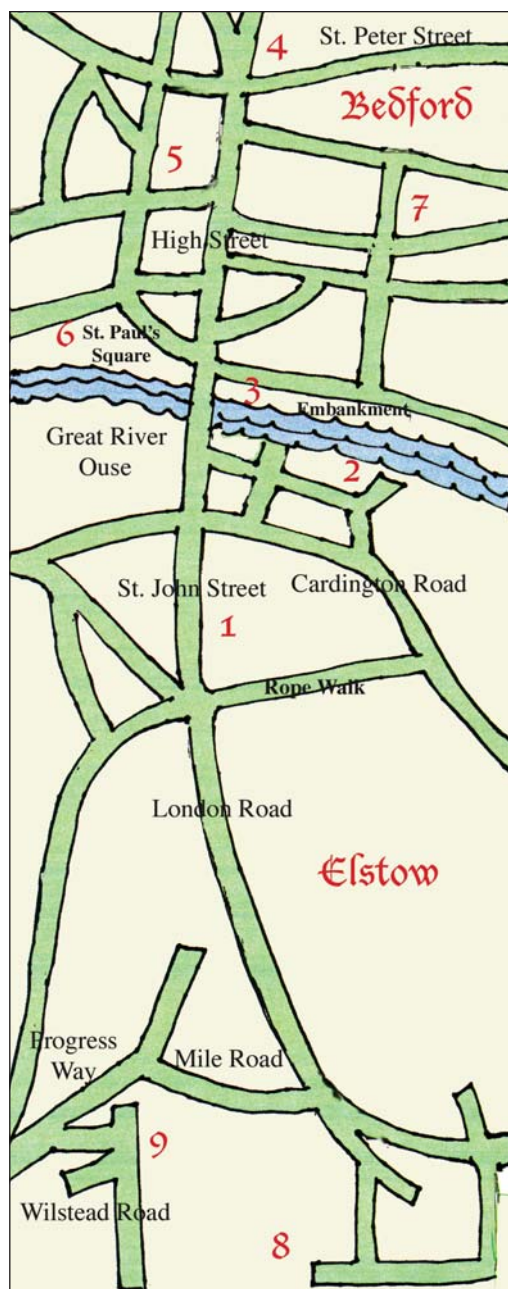


## Chronology of John's Story

- 1628 John Bunyan is born and baptized in Elstow England.
- 1644 Bunyan joins the New Model Army under the Puritans and serves until the army disbands.
- 1649 Bunyan marries his first wife, whose name is unknown.
- 1650 Bunyan's first child, Mary, is born blind. John is on a spiritual quest.
- c.1651 Bunyan overhears three or four poor women talking about the "things of God." He finds some comfort from his spiritual turmoil from the teachings of Pastor John Gifford and from Martin Luther's commentary on Galatians.
- 1653 Bunyan is re-baptized as an adult.
- 1655 Bunyan joins the separatist church in Bedford.
- 1656 Publishes his first work *Some Gospel-Truths Opened*.
- 1657 Bunyan's ability to preach is recognized.
- 1658 His first wife dies leaving him a widower with four children.
- 1659 He marries his second wife, Elizabeth, with whom he has two children, Sarah and Joseph. He becomes involved in the debate concerning the right of men to preach without formal ordination.
- 1660 Bunyan is arrested for preaching at the hamlet of Lower Samell in violation of the anti-Puritan Act against Sectaries (1593). He is offered release if he will agree to stop preaching, but he refuses, and denounces the Church of England for being a false church. He was sentenced to three months in prison. At the end of the sentence he still refuses to discontinue his preaching and so remains in jail. As a result, he spends the next twelve years in prison.
- 1666 His spiritual autobiography, *Grace Abounding To the Chief of Sinners*, is published.
- 1672 While in prison, the congregation at Bedford appoints him pastor of their church.
- 1672 Charles II declares religious indulgences, which enable Bunyan to be set free and given a license to preach.



- 1677 Bunyan is imprisoned for six months for not attending parish church.
- 1678 *The Pilgrim's Progress* is published and becomes a huge success, going through numerous printings and editions. Bunyan spends the remainder of his life preaching and writing as well as updating editions of *The Pilgrim's Progress*.
- 1688 Bunyan preaches his final sermon on August 19th and passes away on August 31st. John Bunyan is buried in the graveyard at Bunhill Fields, not far from London. In the same graveyard are buried: Daniel DeFoe, who wrote *Robinson Crusoe*; Isaac Watts, the great hymn writer; and Susanna Wesley, the mother of John and Charles Wesley. These four people influenced the world as few others have done.



### BUNYAN COUNTRY—Bedford, England Places important in the life of John Bunyan

1. ST. JOHN'S RECTORY—Bunyan called this the House of the Interpreter in *The Pilgrim's Progress*.
2. THE BAPTISMAL POOL
3. TOWN GAOL—This probably was the place where Bunyan served his second sentence in 1676. The jail, now demolished, was part of the bridge.
4. BUNYAN STATUE—The Duke of Bedford donated a nine foot high statue of Bunyan.
5. THE COUNTY JAIL stood here until 1801. This is where Bunyan wrote *The Pilgrim's Progress* during the first of two prison terms.
6. CHAPEL OF HEARNE—Site of Bunyan's trial. Town Hall is there now.
7. BUNYAN'S HOME—From 1655 Bunyan lived in a cottage at 17 St. Cuthbert's Street. Bunyan's will was found behind a brick in the chimney when the house was torn down in 1838.
8. BUNYAN'S BIRTHPLACE
9. ELSTOW as it was. Tudor cottages have been restored on one of its streets.



## The Main Players in the John Bunyan Story

Background information on various individuals, not necessarily included in the DVD.

**John Gifford** was a strong influence in Bunyan's life. He was a former major in the army and a physician. He was also a drunkard, a gambler and a blasphemer. In 1650, his life was changed after reading *Mr. Bolton's Last and Learned Works of the Four Last Things-Death, Judgment, Heaven and Hell*. Within a month of his conversion he became pastor of the newly formed congregation of Nonconformists at Bedford. It was to John Gifford that John Bunyan came for spiritual advice. It was another year before Bunyan read Martin Luther's *Commentary of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians*. Although "under his ministry," Bunyan did not become a member of Gifford's church until 1653. Gifford died in 1655 and was buried in the churchyard of St. John's. Bunyan referred to him as "Holy Mr. Gifford," and put him in *The Pilgrim's Progress* as the character "Evangelist."

**John Owen** (1616-1683) was converted in his mid-twenties. When he went up to Oxford, he sided with the Puritan party against Archbishop Laud. Before completing his B.A. in Divinity, he left Oxford to become pastor of the church at the village of Fordham and later, Coggeshall. He preached to as many as 2,000 people on a Sunday. In 1649, the day after the beheading of King Charles I, he preached a sermon urging religious toleration. Owen went on to become dean of Christ Church, Oxford, and vice-chancellor of the university, a post he had to surrender with the restoration of the Monarchy. He occasionally shared the pulpit with Bunyan and was a big admirer of Bunyan's work. Owen himself published *De Iustitia* (on the Justice of God,) *Biblical Theology* and three other works: *Mortification*, *Temptation and Communion with God*.

**Oliver Cromwell** (1599-1658) Elected as a Member of Parliament for Cambridge in 1640, he retained his position while supporting the views of the Puritans and Independents. When the Civil War broke out in 1642, he was the acknowledged leader of the anti-Royalist force, and signed the death warrant of Charles I. In 1653, he was installed as Lord Protector of the Commonwealth. He died five years later. He was buried in Westminster Abbey, but at the restoration of the Monarchy his remains were disinterred and hung at Tyburn, the place of public executions.

**King Charles II** (1630-1685) was exiled in France and Holland under the Commonwealth. He came to the English throne in 1660 with the restoration of the Monarchy in that year. Through the Declaration of Breda, he promised "none of you shall suffer for your opinions or religious beliefs so long as you live peaceably." Parliament did not share his opinion, and before long, conformity to the Anglican Church became law. In 1672, Charles went against parliament and signed the Declaration of Indulgence, which suspended laws oppressing Catholics and non-conformists; the declaration also freed Bunyan.



**Judge Sir Matthew Hale** was a Member of Parliament under Oliver Cromwell. After the restoration of the Monarchy he was made Chief Baron of the Treasury, and in 1671, became Lord Chief Justice. He was the author of *History of the Common Law of England* and other works. It was Hale whom Elizabeth Bunyan approached in 1661 seeking to free her husband from jail. He was sympathetic and advised her to apply directly to the king for either a pardon or a “writ of error.”

**Paul Cobb** was a clerk of peace during Bunyan's time in prison. It was Cobb's unhappy duty to visit Bunyan and urge him to refrain from preaching and submit to the church, at least until things improved politically. Though he could not convince the steadfast Bunyan, Cobb did have Bunyan's name removed from the “Kalendar” of cases to be tried.

**Justice Twisden** heard Elizabeth Bunyan's plea at the Assizes in Bedford where he sat with Justices Hale and Chester. He was especially prejudiced against Elizabeth because in 1661, having become exasperated with Twisden, she stopped his coach and threw her petition in his lap.

**Mary Bunyan** (d.1658) Her first name is not known, and Mary is a guess. When John and Mary married, John wrote that they had not “so much household stuff as a dish or a spoon betwixt us both.” Mary's great contribution to their household was two books that greatly influenced Bunyan's ministry: Arthur Dent's *The Plaine Man's Path-way to Heaven, Wherein every man may clearly see, whether he shall be saved or damned*, and Lewis Bayly's *The Practice of Pietie, directing a Christian how to walke that he may please God*. Mary and John had four children together before her death in 1658.

**Elizabeth Bunyan** (c.1641-1692) was John Bunyan's second wife and stepmother to his four children by Mary. Together they had two more children that lived. She worked tirelessly in support of her husband and for his release from prison.

**Blind Mary Bunyan** (1650-1663) was Bunyan's first child. She faithfully visited her father in prison year after year, bringing soup for him from home. When Bunyan learned of her death, he poured out his grief by writing the outline for *The Resurrection of the Dead*, an inspirational book.



## Additional Materials

– **DVDs** (available from Vision Video at [www.visionvideo.com](http://www.visionvideo.com) or call 1-800-523-0226)

- *John Bunyan: Journey of a Pilgrim* – Included as a special feature on your Torchlighters DVD, this documentary on Bunyan's life is chronicled by John Pestell, author of *Travel with John Bunyan*. The DVD is also available separately.
- *Dangerous Journey and associated Leader's guide*
- *Pilgrim's Progress Animated*

– **Books** (available through your local Christian bookstore)

- *The Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan
- *The Pilgrim's Progress* for children, various versions are available,
- *Dangerous Journey* by Oliver Harkin

– **Magazines** (order through Christian History Institute — [www.chinstitute.org](http://www.chinstitute.org) or 1-800-468-0458)

- *Christian History* magazine #11

– **Websites**

- **[www.torchlighters.org](http://www.torchlighters.org)** - Visit our website to learn about upcoming episodes of Torchlighters. Check out the kids' section for an online quiz and other fun. This is also a great place to give us your feedback and suggest heroes for future episodes.

### Give us your feedback:

Christian History Institute values your input. If you have comments or recommendations on the Torchlighters series, please share them through our website at [www.torchlighters.org](http://www.torchlighters.org).





## *The Torchlighters: Heroes of the Faith Series*

**Jim Elliot** - Jim Elliot spends his youth preparing to share the Gospel with those who have never heard it. But nothing can prepare him for the dangers and challenges he faces in the jungles of Ecuador. Will Jim and his fellow missionaries ever be able to break through and carry a torch of faith to the remote Auca tribe, determined to attack all outsiders?

**William Tyndale** - In 16th-century England, translating the sacred Scriptures into English is William's calling. It won't be easy with the English government and the established church planted firmly against anyone who even speaks the Scripture in English. Follow this brave fugitive on a journey of faith as he works to complete his task.

**John Bunyan** - To stop preaching just to save his own skin is unthinkable for this hero. But, how will his work continue from the confines of a cold, hard prison, while his wife and blind daughter struggle to survive alone? Watch as John serves his Lord in the most trying of circumstances, and writes an all-time best seller, *The Pilgrim's Progress*.

**Eric Liddell** - This hero has committed his Sundays to worship and rest, and he intends to keep that commitment. But with all of Scotland begging him to run for Olympic gold, it will be difficult to stand firm. Watch as the fastest man in the world chooses to honor God rather than chase a gold medal. Then watch how God uses Eric to bring the Gospel to China.

**Gladys Aylward** - With war raging about her and soldiers closing in, the wounded missionary Gladys Aylward sets out on a 100-mile trek over the mountains to a safe haven. But it's not her own safety that concerns her, it's the safety and well-being of the 100 abandoned children in her care. Watch as Gladys' strength and faith are stretched to the limit, all for the sake of the children.

**Richard Wurmbrand** - In war-torn Romania, there is only one way for churches to get the protection of the government: give their support and allegiance to the ruling communists. Instead, Pastor Richard Wurmbrand chooses to speak up for Christ. When Richard's choice lands him in a communist prison, his faith and witness are tested to the limits. See how this Torchlighter's amazing story continues to impact the world today.

**Perpetua** - In the days of the Early Church, this young mother and new believer is imprisoned, charged with being a Christian, a traitor to the Roman gods. A simple offering of incense to the gods would set her free. Will she remain true to her new faith in Jesus?

**Amy Carmichael** - As she makes her rounds preaching in the countryside of India, Amy learns of the terrible plight of the temple girls. These girls are given to the temple "gods" at a very young age, never again to taste freedom. Though she is warned repeatedly, there is nothing she can do, but Amy will not give up. Can this determined missionary and her team work against entrenched customs and superstitions to free a special girl named Preena?

**William Booth** - This hero is determined to bring the life-changing Gospel to London's worst neighborhood, the East End. But when the local pub owners realize some of their best customers are becoming Christians, they hire big strong thugs to get rid of the preacher once and for all. Watch as William's ragtag band of followers marches into the East End with Bibles and Prayer as the weapons of choice. William's legacy lives on through The Salvation Army.

**Samuel Morris** - Since his father can no longer meet his captors' ransom demands, young Prince Kaboo knows he is to be tortured until death. But when a blinding light appears and the ropes that bind him fall away, a heavenly voice urges him, "Run, Kaboo, Run!" The dramatic events that follow lead the boy prince to take the new name "Samuel Morris." Nothing will stop Samuel from sharing his growing faith with all who will listen.



Visit [www.torchlighters.org](http://www.torchlighters.org) for resources and up-to-date information on new releases.



## Answers to Student Handouts

### Lay Down Your Burdens, page 3

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Lying      | 6. Arrogance  |
| 2. Stealing   | 7. Rage       |
| 3. Quarreling | 8. Gossip     |
| 4. Cursing    | 9. Bitterness |
| 5. Cheating   | 10. Jealousy  |

### Story Mix-Up, page 6

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 4 | 7 |
| 5 | 1 |
| 2 | 8 |
| 3 | 6 |

### Armor of God Word Activity, page 9

1. Spirit
2. Gospel of Peace
3. Righteousness
4. Salvation
5. Truth
6. Faith

### Matching Game, page 7

- New Prisoner - 6  
Apollyon - 8  
Young John Bunyan - 1  
Pastor Gifford - 5  
Jailor - 7  
Mary - 4  
John Bunyan - 2  
Judge Kelynge - 9  
Hazelwood - 10  
Elizabeth 3

### Stories with Lessons, page 13

If a **man** owns **100** sheep  
**and one** of them **wanders** away,  
will the **man** not leave the **99** on  
the **hills and** go to **look**  
**for** the **one** that **wandered off**?