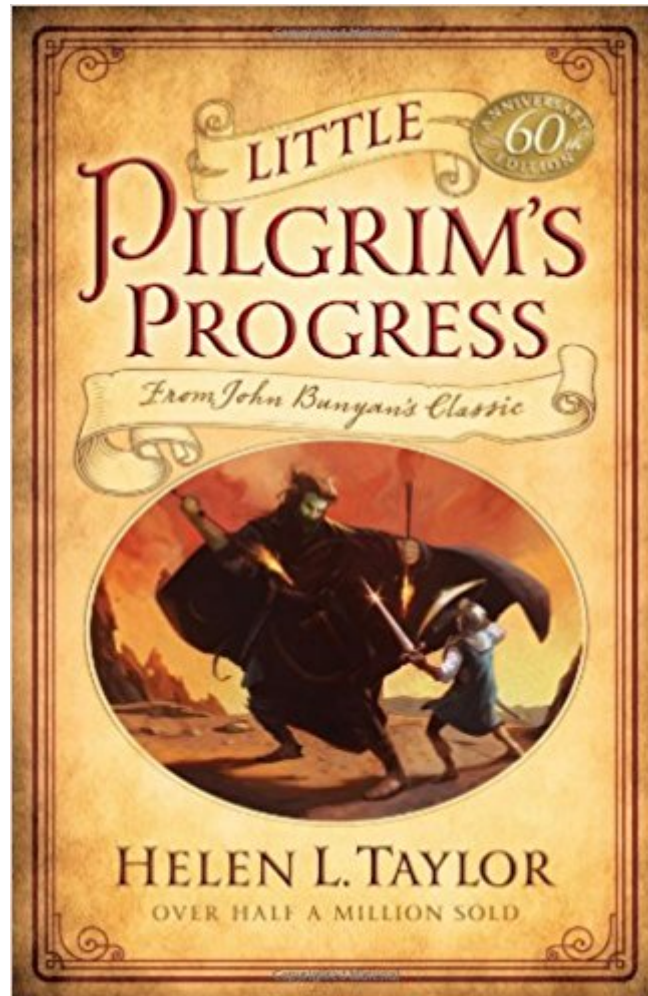




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Little Pilgrim's Progress: From John Bunyan's Classic



Synopsis

Fifty-five years ago, Helen L. Taylor took John Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress and simplified the vocabulary and concepts for young readers while keeping the storyline intact. The result was a classic in itself, which has now sold over 600,000 copies. It's both a simple adventure story and a profound allegory of the Christian journey through life, a delightful read with a message kids ages 6 to 12 can understand and remember. A new look and fresh illustrations for today's children enlivens the journey to the Celestial City.

Book Information

Paperback: 336 pages

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.8 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (143 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

During my childhood nearly 40 years ago) I was utterly fascinated by this book. It stood out as one of the most interesting books of my childhood days, and it made an indelible impression on me. (Other favorites were C.S. Lewis' Narnia series, Little Princess, & Secret Garden). But back to Little Pilgrim's Progress: I'm not sure why this book was so intriguing to myself and my siblings, perhaps because the little pilgrim faced real dangers and even death??Well, recently this book came up in conversation -- I hadn't thought of it for years -- and I dug out a copy, and started to read it. Moments later my nearly 6-year-old daughter came up and asked me if I would read it to her. My nearly 4-year-old son also wanted to listen. (I read frequently to my children, and they often are able to enjoy stories beyond their age level, but still I thought this would be too advanced to hold their

attention.) But still, I decided to try. Of course, when I read I simplified or explained the language from time to time (some of the wording is old-fashioned). But to my astonishment, my children were absolutely riveted. The chapters in this book are short, and the children kept begging me to read more!! I was especially amazed that my 4-year-old remained totally engaged in the story (there are occasional illustrations, but it isn't a picture book; they were just listening). We finished the Christian part of the book in a few reading sessions over 3 days. (We later read the Christiana story, but the children didn't find it as interesting). Conclusion: I'm not saying that this book would usually be of interest to such young children, but only wanted to comment that it can be a very exciting book and can provide much opportunity for thoughtful discussion with a parent.

While recently studying John Bunyan, a Christian preacher from the 17th century and the famous author of *The Pilgrim's Progress* - a widely read book in Christian households for several centuries, we decided to take a small break from the historical fiction novels that accompany our history studies and turn to a literature selection for a week or so. John Bunyan wrote *The Pilgrim's Progress* in two parts in 1678 and 1684. In it, while telling a tale of a heroic, medieval style quest & pilgrimage, he communicates to his readers the struggles, temptations, challenges and ultimately the redemption of the Christian choosing to follow the straight and narrow path through life. Instead of reading the actual *Pilgrim's Progress*, which would probably be a bit dry for my young teen's taste, I decided to read *Little Pilgrim's Progress* instead. It was a HUGE hit. Even though my son is older than the suggested age range, he (and I!!) had a wonderful time picking apart and discussing all of the Christian allegory, while enjoying a good, old-fashioned tale of adventure. *Little Pilgrim's Progress* perfectly adapts *The Pilgrim's Progress* for a younger audience but stays fairly true to the original story. It covers two main stories: the journey of Christian, a boy from the City of Destruction and his journey to the Celestial City and then, later, the story of Christiana, a young girl who, afterwards, follows the same road at a more leisurely pace on the path forged by Christian. This is NOT a watered down story that side-steps ugliness. There is plenty of fighting (complete with swords and armor), nasty creatures set on killing unsuspecting travelers, temptations, traps, cruelty and even death.

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