



The Way of a Pilgrim (anonymous author)
Reading Group Discussion Guide

Use the following questions as guides to deeper individual understanding of the novel or for group discussion.

1. Do you see this book as a historical or autobiographical account? Was it really a memoir or a kind of novel/parable?

2. Through the book, the Pilgrim is compared to Jesus. Why and How?

3. What is prayer? What is the goal of prayer? How does the prayer tradition described in the book differ from Western practices?

4. How does the book tell us to pray? What do you think of these methods? Regarding the Jesus Prayer, read Luke 18: 9-14 and discuss.

5. Why is the Jesus Prayer to be said so many times? According to the book, what is the power of the prayer?

6. The book has become one of the great spiritual classics in the last century. Why? Why do so many Christians find so much in it?

7. The Pilgrim says at one point that the Jesus Prayer is in a sense a summary of the whole Bible. What does he mean by this?

8. This book comes out of the Church in the Slavic East. What do you learn about the Church in the East in this book? How important is formal liturgy to the Church in the East?

9. Why do people go on pilgrimage? Just why does our Pilgrim wander?

10. Does the Devil feature in this book? Do the Pilgrim and his circle believe in the power of the Devil?

11. How is the Bible used as an aid to meditation and contemplative prayer in the book?

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