

Samson Chose Revenge-School Age LifeGroup Lesson July 12th

Scripture Reference: Judges 13-16

School Age Life Point: People can make good choices.

Bible Study:

An angel spoke to Samson's parents before Samson was born. The angel said, "Your son will be set apart for God's service. You must never cut his hair. He will begin to save Israel from powerful Philistines.

When Samson was grown, he met a Philistine woman and demanded his parents, "Get her for me as a wife! I want her!" One the way to go the woman's town, God's spirit gave Samson great power. A young lion charged at Samson. Samson tore the lion apart with his bare hands.

At Samson's wedding he told some Philistines a riddle about the lion. The Philistines convinced Samson's bride to tell the riddle's answer, and Samson was furious. He killed 30 Philistine men. When Samson's new bride was given away to another man, he angrily burned the Philistine's fields.

Sometimes later, Samson fell in love with Delilah, another Philistine woman. Each Philistine leader offered Delilah 1,100 pieces of silver if she could reveal the secret of Samson's great strength. Over and over Delilah begged Samson for his secret. Finally, Samson gave in. "My hair has never been cut," he admitted. "It is the source of my strength."

When Samson fell asleep, Delilah called a man to cut his hair. Then she cried, "Samson, the Philistines are here!" Samson did not realize his strength was gone. The Philistines captured Samson, blinded him and forced him to grind grain in prison.

The Philistines gathered in their temple to home their false god. "Our god has handed over our enemy!" the Philistines said. They called for Samson to be brought out so they could make fun of him.

With help, Samson braced himself against the pillars of the temple. He prayed, "God, remember me. Strengthen me just once more."

Samson pushed with all his strength, and the temple collapsed. As Samson died, he killed more Philistines than he had during his life.

Review questions:

- 1) What special purpose did God have for Samson? **To begin to save Israel from the Philistines)**
- 2) What did an angel tell Samson's parents never to do? **To cut his hair**
- 3) What happened after the Philistine wedding guests solved Samson's riddle? **He killed 30 Philistines and later burned their fields**
- 4) Why did the Philistines offer Delilah silver? **To reveal the secret of Samson's strength**
- 5) What caused Samson to lose his strength? **When Samson fell asleep, Delilah called a man to cut his hair.**
- 6) How did God use Samson? **Samson pushed down the temple and killed many Philistines.**

Hands on Ideas:

- 1) Make a letter C.** Find things around your house to make a letter C. Be reminded that Samson was responsible for his choice and we can choose to make good choices.
- 2) Activity Pages.** In your email and on social media there is a link for the age appropriate activity pages.