

Preschool

Samson

Parent Devo & Bible Study

Session Title: Samson

Bible Passage: Judges 13–16

Story Point: God gave Samson strength to defeat the Philistines.

Key Passage: 1 John 1:9

Big Picture Question: What is repentance? Repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus.

Parent Devotional

Samson was the last of the major judges of Israel. He was born to parents who dedicated him to the Lord as a Nazirite after the Angel of the Lord announced that Samson would be born to save the Israelites from the power of the Philistines. Samson grew up, and God blessed him with great strength. But when Samson requested to marry a Philistine woman, his parents were confused. Samson was supposed to deliver the Israelites from the Philistines. Why would he want to marry one of them? But God had a plan in all of this. (See Judg. 14:4.)

As Samson prepared for the wedding, he gave a riddle to the men with him about an event that occurred on his way to Timnah. (See Judg. 14:9-14.) Days passed, and the men convinced Samson's wife to tell them the answer to the riddle. This action sparked a series of events that would eventually lead to the death of Samson.

When the men solved his riddle, Samson was so angry that he torched the fields of the Philistines. He used the jawbone of a donkey to kill 1,000 men, and he left his wife. The Philistine leaders determined to kill Samson. When Samson fell in love with a woman named Delilah, the leaders bribed her into telling them where Samson's strength came from.

A man came and shaved the braids from Samson's head. He lost his strength and became helpless. The Philistines gouged out his eyes and took him prisoner. They had him stand between the pillars of a pagan temple. In a final plea to God, Samson asked for his strength back. God gave him strength, and Samson knocked over the pillars, collapsing the temple. In his death, Samson killed more Philistines than he had killed in his life. (Judg. 16:30)

Though Samson disobeyed God, God used him to accomplish His purpose of delivering the Israelites from the Philistines. Jesus would come as the last Deliverer, saving through His obedience in His life and His death those who would trust in Him.

KINDERGARTEN - 5TH GRADE BIBLE STORY

Samson

Judges 13–16

God's people kept getting into trouble. They disobeyed God again and again. Each time, God let their enemies have power over them. Now God's people were being controlled by the Philistines.

One day, the angel of the LORD appeared to two of God's people. The angel told the couple that they were going to have a son. God had a special instruction for the baby: He should never cut his hair. God said, "Your son is going to save the Israelites from the Philistines."

When the woman had a baby, she named him Samson. God made Samson very strong. Samson grew up and met a woman named Delilah. Samson fell in love with her. The Philistine leaders told Delilah, "Find out why Samson is so strong." The leaders wanted to make Samson weak.

Delilah asked Samson, "Why are you so strong?" Samson said, "If you tie me up with seven fresh bowstrings, I will be weak." But that was not true. Delilah tied up Samson with seven fresh bowstrings. When she said, "Samson! The Philistines are here to get you!" Samson broke free.

Delilah asked Samson again, "Why are you so strong?" Samson said, "If you tie me up with new rope, I will be weak." But that was not true. Delilah tied up Samson with new rope. When she said, "Samson! The Philistines are here to get you!" Samson broke free.

Delilah asked Samson again, "Why are you so strong?" Samson told Delilah, "If you weave my hair into a loom, I will be weak." But that was not true. Delilah wove Samson's hair into a loom. When she said, "Samson! The Philistines are here to get you!" Samson broke free.

Delilah begged Samson to tell her the truth, so Samson did: "If you cut my hair, I will not have my strength."

When Samson was sleeping, a Philistine man came and cut his hair. Delilah woke up Samson. "Samson!" she said, "The Philistines are here to get you!" But Samson was not strong anymore. The Philistines grabbed him and took him away in chains.

But Samson's hair began to grow back. One day, the Philistines made Samson stand between two columns in their temple. Samson cried out to God, and God made Samson

strong. Samson pushed on the columns, and the temple fell down. Samson and everyone in the temple died, but Samson had saved the Israelites from the Philistines.

Christ Connection: Samson died because of his sin, but God used Samson's death to help His people. Samson reminds us of Jesus. Jesus never sinned, but He died for our sin. Jesus died and rose again to rescue God's people from sin and give them life with God forever.

Memory Verse:

1 John 1:9

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."