

D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **August 22, 2021** Family Theme | **God Uses Flawed People** Study Text | **Judges 16:1-31**

Objective: Children understand Samson's patterns of sin and lust led to the Spirit leaving him, taking away his strength. God later used Samson again when he cried out to God. Stay in close fellowship with God by confessing sin daily and avoiding sinful patterns.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: This lesson is set around 1055 BC during the time of the judges between the death of Joshua and the rise of the monarchy. God used a flawed Samson to deliver Israel from the Philistines. He was the last of the judges in the book of Judges.

Bible Basics: Go over the following question and answer each day this week and work with family members to do so as well. What does the Ninth Commandment mean? Answer: The Ninth Commandment (Exodus 20:16) directs us always to tell the truth.

Read the Word: Judges 16:1-31

Disciple Your Kids

Help your children and grandchildren understand that ongoing sin hinders our relationship with God. We stay in close relationship with God by confessing sin daily and avoiding patterns of sin.



Key Truth: Ongoing Patterns of Sin Lead to Sorrowful Consequences (Judges 16:1-21)

Judges 13 introduces us to Samson, the final judge listed in the book of Judges. He was to be a Nazirite for his entire life and would begin to deliver Israel from the Philistines. Chapter 16 opens with a disclosure of one of Samson's weaknesses. He had developed a sinful pattern of lust and desire for women. This pattern of sin would lead to pain, sorrow, shame, and ultimately his death. In order to find out the source of his strength and how to overpower him, the Philistines used a woman named Delilah, promising to pay her well to seduce him. Delilah began tempting Samson. Three times Delilah asked Samson to tell her the source of his strength and Samson gave her false answers. She then questioned Samson's loyalty and love for her until he told her the truth. She coddled Samson to sleep and had his hair cut. Samson was seized by the Philistines and his eyes were gouged out. He was then bound with bronze shackles, and this time, unlike previous times, he could do nothing about it. He was taken to Gaza and forced to grind grain while in prison.



Key Truth: God Can Use Us in Spite of Our Flaws if We Turn to Him (Judges 16:22-31)

The time had come for the Philistines to offer a sacrifice to their false god Dagon. They felt he had given Samson into their hands. They called Samson before the crowd to make a spectacle and mockery of him. Samson called out to God in prayer, asking God to strengthen him once more so that he could be avenged for the blindness he was experiencing. Samson asked to be able to die with the Philistines and pushed against the supporting columns of the temple. God granted his request and strengthened him. The temple collapsed and the thousands of Philistines gathered there with Samson died. Samson accomplished more for God in death than he did in life. God's grace, mercy, redemption, and second chances are seen in this final stage of Samson's life. While being used by God to defeat his enemies, his life had also been filled

with failure, sin, bad choices, and regret. Yet the Lord granted that the final act of his life would be done in God's strength. Samson struggled and was flawed in his heart and character, but he also demonstrated the beauty of God's grace when we turn to God for help.

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- What are some common sinful patterns that people fall into in our culture?
- How can we break our sinful patterns, making ourselves even more useable for God's purposes?
- **For Elementary:** What were some of Samson's flaws (sinful patterns)?
- **For Elementary:** What consequences did Samson suffer because of His sinful patterns?
- **For Elementary:** What (if any) sinful pattern do you need to break this week?

Everyday Extras

How much of a ruler can extend over the edge of a table without falling to the floor? Probably about six inches. Try counterbalancing it with a hammer though. Put a loose rubber band around both the ruler and the hammer. Begin with the rubber band in the center of the two tools, resting the one-inch mark of the ruler on the edge of the table with the hammer hanging below the table. Allow the ruler's 12-inch mark to touch the handle of the hammer as you gently shift the rubber band closer to the hammer's head and toward the one-inch mark on the ruler, extending the other end of the ruler further from the table. When you pass the hammer's center of gravity, you should be able to balance the tools with only an inch or so of the ruler actually touching the table. It looks quite improbable that a hammer and a ruler can balance this way!

God has a way of using improbable people to accomplish His will. Samson made some bad choices and often used his strength for revenge, but God still used Samson as part of His plan.

Preschool Highlights for SQUARE 1 & ROUND 2

Today your child learned God took care of Naomi and Ruth after their husbands died and they were alone. He kept them safe as they traveled to Naomi's hometown of Bethlehem. He led Ruth to work in the field of a man named Boaz. God took care of Naomi and Ruth, and **God Takes Care of Me.**