

Questions for the Week



Connect (pick 1 question to ask the group)

1. What is one thing you can thank the Lord for this week?
2. What is one request you are still waiting for the Lord to answer?

Study (Read Judges 16:4-22)

1. Samson is making a decision in this story that represents a pattern of behavior. What do you know of his life that would explain his patterns? (See Judges 13-15)
2. Patterns in life create the trajectory that we follow. What is a pattern in your life (good or bad) that you should either continue to follow or seek to change?
3. Samson clearly had superhuman strength that could have only come from God, but he still believed the lie that his strength came from himself. What does this tell you about the dangers of pride?
4. Self confidence is a good quality, but arrogance is dangerous. How do you build confidence in yourself without building pride?
5. Samson knows that Delilah is trying to take his strength but repeatedly allows her to do it. What part of your life are you most likely to trust yourself to handle temptation rather than flee from it?

Reflect

1. Based on this passage, is there anything you personally need to confess, consider, or surrender to God?
2. Is there any relationship or situation in your life that this story applies to?

Leader Notes

Samson was uniquely called by God to set himself apart as a Nazarite and then to be used by God to save Israel. In order to accomplish this calling God gave Samson superhuman strength. Throughout his life Samson repeatedly broke his oath without seeing significant consequences for his actions. Over time he began to believe that his strength was in himself rather than a gift from the Lord - or at least that the Lord would overlook his recklessness. His confidence in God's calling and provision slowly shifted into a prideful selfishness. Samson teaches us many things: that patterns of compromise lead to destruction - even when the consequence is delayed, that it is easy to fall into sinful pride, and that even when we believe we are strong enough to handle temptation we should flee from it.