

Message Outline  
Samson—Part 3  
Judges 16



**Intro:** Judges: life in dysfunctional days!

- Samson's relaxing/rejecting life practices finds himself living godlessly...
- Last week's lessons: secrecy, relationships, God's preferred will vs. permissive will...

**Read:** Judges 16

**15:20**—Odd placement of Samson's leadership epitaph...

**16:1a**—Gaza: what's Samson doing in the big city of his big rivals???

**v.1-2**—Samson continues to play in some dangerous practices/places...

**v.3**—Impressive feat of strength...

- Each escape seems to embolden Samson's slide further...

**v.4**—Lady #3...Delilah...another unhealthy relationships...

- Valley of Sorek means "choice vine": why's a Nazirite settling in "vine valley"?

**v.5**—"lords of the Philistines" shows national leadership offering rich payout...

**v.6-17**—Samson flirting closer and closer to the edge until he's over...

**v.18**—Betrayal and money in Scripture...

**v.19-20**—What hair represented...

- Samson's strength was always in the Lord and he lost sight of that in his life's drift...

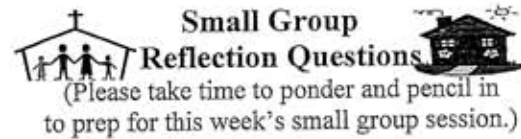
**v.21**—Seizing, gouging, shackling, imprisoning in Gaza...direct contrast to the way Samson lived life before...

**v.22**—God's grace highlighted...

**v.23-25**—Pagan celebration and Samson's the mockery...

**v.26-31**—Samson literally brings the house down... (cf. Jdgs. 16:4)

- Noting Samson's prayer (v.28 cf. 15:18)...
- In his blind state, Samson "sees" clearly for the first time!



*\*God is at work in this world. Where did you "see/sense" Him this week?*

**Read:** John 1:19-42, Luke 5:1-11

*\*Why do you think Andrew and Peter decided to follow Jesus? What had to change in their life as a result of following Jesus?*

**Movie Review:** Ep.4 "The Rock On Which It Is Built" (~45min.)

*\*What stuck out to you most in this latest episode of the Chosen?*

*\*In this episode, Peter's introduction to Jesus was following a "dark night" and failed choices prior. Has there been a "dark night" where Jesus surprisingly showed up in your journey? Share.*

*\*In this episode, Zebedee encouraged his sons to leave the family business and follow Jesus. What were your thoughts on that advice from a father's perspective and a small business owners perspective? Who was it that most encouraged you to follow Jesus?*