



SUMMERDALE CHURCH OF CHRIST (VBS)

Extreme Characters For An Extreme Spiritual Life: *The Story of Samson*

Judges 13:1-16:31

Introduction: Many of the judges were separated early on as leaders among God's people. But Samson was special. Samson was separated from birth to fulfill God's purpose. He was the strongest man alive! How do you defeat the world's strongest human? Find his weakness. Let's study together about this extreme Bible character

Discussion:

I. The Cycle of the Israelites (13:1)

A. Sin: They Did Evil (v.1a).

B. Slavery: The Philistines, 40 Years (v.1b).

C. Sorrow: None (v.1b).

D. Questions:

(1) Why do people make ignorant decisions?

(2) How come we make some of the same mistakes over and over?

(3) Why are people so afraid of being different?

(4) How can we be different?

E. Practical application:

Watch Videos – Terrible Terry Tate & The Whopper

Which one are you?

II. The Birth of Samson (13:2-25)

A. The Angel's First Visit (vs.2-8)

B. The Angel's Second Visit (vs.9-22)

C. The Angel's Gift (vs.23-25)

D. Questions:

(1) How many of you chose your parents?

(2) Why doesn't God give us a choice on when and where we are born?

(3) Why did God restrict Samson's diet, dress, and friends?

(4) Are rules always a bad thing?

E. Practical application:

Watch Videos – Old Lady/Conflict & Skipping Work

Which one are you?

III. *The Rise of Samson (14:1-15:20)*

- A. Samson's First Marriage (14:1-11)
- B. Samson's Divorce (14:12-20)
- C. Samson's Enemies (15:1-20)
- D. Questions:

- (1) Have you ever had trouble with relationships?
- (2) Why do girls have trouble with guys?
- (3) Why do guys have trouble with girls?
- (4) What are some reasons why its important to have friends?
- (5) Why do people seek revenge?

- E. Practical application:

Watch Videos – Brat Pack & Woman Parking
Which one are you?

IV. *The Fall of Samson (16:1-22)*

- A. Samson's Lust (vs.1-22)
- B. Samson's Mistake (vs.17-20)
- C. Samson's Imprisonment (vs.21-22)
- D. Samson's Death (vs.23-31)
- E. Questions:

- (1) Why is Samson considered a hero?
- (2) How can we avoid being tempted?
- (3) What can we do if we have been tempted or if we have sinned?
- (4) What did God do to reward Samson?

- F. Practical application:

Watch Videos – Didn't Want To Know & Grandpa
Which one do you want to be?

Conclusion: There are so many lessons to learn from this story: (1) *If we are separated to God, we will be different.* God is seeking people that will dare to be different. (2) *Samson, like Israel, was blinded.* He failed to understand the difference between what he wanted and what God wanted. (3) *It's never too late for God's people to repent, pray for God's presence, and allow God to have control.* God rewarded Samson because he was still willing to admit he was wrong and that he needed God's help. **YOU CAN BE STRONG IN THE LORD!** Remember **Philippians 4:13** and **Romans 8:31**. With God on your side you can NEVER be defeated! Live an extreme life in Christ and God will reward you!