

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE®

1

CONVERSATION

Samson Chose Revenge

JUDGES 13–16

An angel spoke to Samson's parents before Samson was born. The angel said, "Your son will be set apart for God's service. You must never cut his hair. He will begin to save Israel from the powerful Philistines."

When Samson was grown, he met a Philistine woman and demanded his parents, "Get her for me as a wife! I want her!" On the way to the woman's town, God's Spirit gave Samson great power. A young lion charged at Samson. Samson tore the lion apart with his bare hands.

At Samson's wedding he told some Philistines a riddle about the lion. The Philistines convinced Samson's bride to tell the riddle's answer, and Samson was furious. He killed 30 Philistine men. When Samson's new bride was given away to another man, he angrily burned the Philistines' fields.

Sometime later, Samson fell in love with Delilah, another Philistine woman. Each Philistine leader offered Delilah 1,000 pieces of silver if she could reveal the secret of Samson's great strength. Over and over Delilah begged Samson for his secret. Finally, Samson gave in. "My hair has never been cut," he admitted. "It is the source of my strength."

When Samson fell asleep, Delilah called a man to cut his hair. Then she cried, "Samson, the Philistines are here!" Samson did not realize his strength was gone. The Philistines captured Samson, blinded him, and forced him to grind grain in prison.

The Philistines gathered in their temple to honor their false god. "Our god has handed over our enemy!" the Philistines said. They called for Samson to be brought out so they could make fun of him.

With help, Samson braced himself against the pillars of the temple. He prayed, "God, remember me. Strengthen me just once more."

Samson pushed with all his strength, and the temple collapsed. As Samson died, he killed more Philistines than he had during his life.

WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE: Proverb 3:7

LIFE POINT: People can make good choices.



THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

Parents, your child heard that people can make good choices. Samson did not choose to make good choices. He chose to sin or to disobey God. Every day your family has the choice to obey or disobey God. What will you choose?

LIVE IT OUT

Review the Bible story about Samson. Talk about consequences of sin—disobeying God. Remind your child that everyone sins, and no one except Jesus is perfect, or without sin. Anyone can ask for forgiveness for any sin.

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

People are responsible for their choices.

DAILY BIBLE READING

Sunday: Proverbs 3:7

Monday: Philippians 2:3

Tuesday: 1 John 2:9

Wednesday: James 4:7

Thursday: Proverbs 12:22

Friday: Ephesians 5:5

Saturday: 1 John 3:15

TAKE IT FURTHER: Check out the *Samson Chose Revenge* section of the Bible Studies for Life: Kids Family App.

SUMMER 2020

Unit 1, Session 6

CONNECTION POINT:

We will one day receive all we hope for in Christ.

THE BIBLE MEETS

LIFE: Perspective is key in determining how a person responds to life events. If a person is completely invested in this life alone, the response to the inevitable trials and tribulations of life is often anger, sorrow, and despair. Because the Christian is invested in eternal life in the kingdom of God that is to come, he or she has hope, knowing that the trials of this life are only temporary and will one day give way to a life of eternal joy and peace.

LIVE IT OUT: Your student has been encouraged to take practical steps to take his or her faith and Live It Out.

PRESCHOOL

Scripture: Genesis 26:12-33

Live It Out: Review the Bible story. Think of ways your family could end a conflict to get along with your neighbors. Say that God wants people to get along with others.

Isaac had so many animals that some people did not like him. Some people put dirt in Isaac's wells. Isaac could not get water for his animals or his family. Isaac decided to move.

Isaac's helpers dug a new well at their new home. But the people who lived there said the water belonged to them. Isaac did not want the people and his helpers to argue.

Isaac's helpers dug another well. People said the water belonged to them. Isaac moved one more time.

Isaac's helpers dug another well. This time people did not argue with Isaac's helpers. There was plenty of water for everyone.

The king and his helpers came to see Isaac. The king said, "We know God has taken care of you. We don't want to argue anymore. Let's agree that we will be kind to each other."

KIDS

Scripture: Judges 13–16

Live It Out: Review the Bible story. Talk about consequences of disobeying God. Remind your child that everyone sins. Anyone can ask for forgiveness for any sin.

God chose Samson before he was born to serve God. Samson was a Nazirite, so he could not cut his hair. Samson grew and God blessed him. But Samson chose to do things that displeased God.

Samson loved a Philistine woman named Delilah. She was promised money if she could learn where Samson's strength came from. Finally, Samson told her if his hair was cut, his strength would leave him. While Samson was sleeping, a man cut Samson's hair.

Samson was captured and blinded by the Philistines. They chained him and used him to grind their grain. Samson's hair began to grow back. The Philistines brought him from prison to their temple. Samson asked God to give him strength. Samson pushed on the pillars with all of his might. The temple collapsed and killed Samson and all of the people in it.

STUDENTS

Scripture: 1 Peter 5:5b-11

- What's the difference between "taking pride" in hard work and being prideful?
- List a few ways you can actively resist the devil's temptations in your life.
- How does your hope for eternity influence your everyday life?

Live It Out: God is loving and righteous, grieves the impact of sin on the world, and will one day make right all that sin has damaged. Jesus went through the hardest experiences imaginable. Still, He remained focused on the joy that was on the other side of His crucifixion. For us, hope is like this. Though we face difficulties, we are called to set our hope on eternity.

All over the world, Christians are suffering for their faith in Christ. Make it a point to pray for those brothers and sisters in Christ who are brave in speaking out for the Lord and imprisoned for the sake of the gospel. As a family, consider other ways you can help those oppressed and persecuted for their faith in Jesus Christ.