

**THE LIFE OF SAMSON – WEEK 2**  
**JUDGES 14-16 – CONTROLLING DESIRES**

**SHOW OPENING CLIP FROM “SAMSON – THE BIBLE SERIES”**

**RECAP LAST WEEK:**

Last week we begin a new series teach us the principles of “LIVING LIVES SET-APART”  
To do that we will be focusing on the life of Samson – his story is found in the book of JUDGES.

**BIG IDEA OF SERIES: A SET APART LIFE INCREASES THE GOOD REPUTATION OF GOD**

GIVE BACK GROUND ABOUT JUDGES

Judges – sad commentary of the demise of the people of Israel – instead of a story of people who are growing more passionate and committed to serving God – because of all he did for them (delivers them from slavery- provides for them in dessert – brings them to promised land) just the opposite – people found their heart wondering away from him

**Some good stories in Judges: 3 of most prominent (besides Samson)**

**Deborah chap 4 – 1<sup>st</sup> and only female Judge (Judge Judy – Judge Debbie) – military leader, unusual for a woman to occupy a role in spiritual leadership** - ideal role model for every woman called to lead others.

**GIDEON** – another judge raised up he is the guy know for laying down a fleece to seek God's guidance – who defeated the midianites with only 300 men (had army of 32,000- eliminated them asking them to drink water – lapped water like a dog – stayed (remained on feet- ready for battle) got down on knees and drank - 300 defeated an army of 135,000 (450:1)

**Strange story of Jephthah** – guy who was son of a prostitute (social outcast – his brothers all rejected him – but then sought his help to defeat the Ammonites – makes a strange vow to Lord “If you help me defeat the Ammonites – when I get home whatever comes out the door of my house to meet me when I return in triumph I will sacrifice it as a burnt offering to the Lord – NO SURE WHAT HE WAS THINKING OF – HIS DOG LASSIE (DINO- FLINTSTONES)– HIS DAUGHTER COMES OUT(DANCING WITH TAMBOURINE). Cries out “made a vow I can't break” She says do what you have promised – ask permission to go off and roam hills with friends 2 months – she will never marry – when she gets back – sacrifices her as burnt offering WHAT???????

## STORY OF SAMSON

- MAN WHO HAD A SPECIAL BIRTH – miraculous
  - BORN to a barren woman
- MAN WHO WAS SET-APART to do great things for God (SERVE GOD)
  - Set apart – no fermented drink – unclean food – razor touch his head
  - Nazirite – deliver Israel from the Philistines
- TO ACCOMPLISH HIS PURPOSE – SPIRIT MOVED
  - V24-25 “As he grew the Lord blessed him and the Spirit of the Lord began to stir him”

We also – special birth (Born again – spiritual rebirth) – John 3:5-7

We also have been set-apart - 1 Peter 2:9 – chosen people

2 Corinthians 5:18-20 – minister’s of reconciliation – Ambassador’s for Christ

To accomplish his will for us – SPIRIT FILLED ACTS 1:8

HIGH HOPES FOR SAMSON & FOR US – HIS PURPOSE WAS DERAILED

BIG IDEA: YOUR UNCONTROLLED DESIRES CAN DERAILED WHAT GOD HAS PLANNED FOR YOUR LIFE

3 things learn from Samson’s life that derail us from our purpose:

### 1) FORGET OUR COMMITMENT TO GOD

His purpose for being "set apart" was for service:

- a. to God (worship, Nazirite vow)--our first calling- worship and serve God
- Samson has good beginning
- Angel speaks at his birth (special birth)
- Born to godly parents
- Spirit of God is upon him from his childhood (READ 13:24-25)
- Makes a vow to the Lord - 3 parts-
  - Tough no unclean thing
  - Drink no wine or fermented drink
  - Don't cut your hair

As he goes through life he systematically breaks each of those vows (chap14)-

- Kills lion- comes back sees a beehive in the carcass – reaches in to grab some honey (touches a dead animal)

