

**THE LIFE OF SAMSON – WEEK 3**  
**JUDGES 16:18-27 – HUMILIATION**

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

**RECAP LAST WEEK:**

We are week 3 of a 4 week 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**

Last 2 weeks we have learned:

**STORY OF SAMSON**

- **MAN WHO HAD A SPECIAL BIRTH** – miraculous
  - BORN to a barren woman
  - We also special birth John 3 – spiritual birth – born again
- **MAN WHO WAS SET-APART**
  - Nazarite – deliver Israel from the Philistines
  - We also have been set apart by God to accomplish great things –  
1 Peter 2:9 – chosen people
- 2 Corinthians 5:18-20 – minister’s of reconciliation – Ambassador’s for Christ
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- **TO ACCOMPLISH HIS PURPOSE – SPIRIT MOVED**
  - 13”V24-25 “As he grew the Lord blessed him and the Spirit of the lord began to stir him”
  - Filled with the spirit Acts 1:8

NO P.P.

Last we learned that Samson’s purpose was derailed by 3 things:

**1) SAMSON FORGET HIS COMMITMENT TO GOD**

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

- a. to God (worship, Nazarite vow)--our first calling- worship and serve God
- b. Makes a vow to the Lord - 3 parts-
  - Tough no unclean thing
  - Drink no wine or fermented drink
  - Don’t cut your hair

Samson has good beginning – but he quickly forgot his commitment to God as he goes through life he systematically breaks each of those vows-

- c. Kills lion- comes back sees a beehive in the carcass – reaches in to grab some honey (touches a dead animal)
- d. Later in his life throws a week long party – drinks wine
- e. He meets Delilah he gives her the secret to his strength – she cuts his hair

- f. Broken all his vows – loses his strength
- g. Becomes weak not because the length of his hair – BUT THE STRENGTH OF HIS HEART

APPLICATION FOR US: keep your vows – commitments to others, a job, the church – yes be Jesus says in Matthew 5:37 “yes be yes and your no be no” his brother James says same thing in James 5:12 (wonder if he learned the hard way)

## 2) SAMSON ALLOWED HIS DESIRES AND IMPULSES TO CONTROL HIM

- SAMSON IS A WALKING IMPULSE MACHINE –
  - if he wants it he takes it
  - if he sees it he gets hold of it (prostitute – Delilah)
  - what impulses control your life: gossip, anger (TALK ABOUT YANKEE STADIUM), lust, greed (what is doing to your life, relationship, those you love)

we need to be controlled not by our desires but by Holy Spirit

## 3) SAMSON BECAME SELF-DIRECTED INSTEAD OF OTHERS DIRECTED

He was taken away from his purpose when he began to focus on himself and his desires

He forgot his life purpose was to SERVE OTHERS (deliver Israelites from hands of Philistines)

- a. to God's people (Israelites)- commitment to God is also commitment to His people
- b. to God's work (as a Judge)- commitment to serve in His work of spreading the gospel

Man of great faith – took his eyes off God – allowed his weaknesses to come in and control him – FORGOTTEN HIS PURPOSE – SET APART FOR -

What is the result of his actions--- TOTAL HUMILIATION!!!

**Big Idea of Message: Do not risk your reputation and God's reputation by pursuing your own agenda in life.**

Samson – special – set-apart – serve God – downward spiral started when he forgot God, didn't control his desires – served self instead of others

When that happens what is the result – THE TOTAL COLLAPSE OF FAITH

READ Judges 16:18-27

