

# Samson

## Judges 13-16

March 29, 2020

Age group: Kindergarten - 1st

Small Group

Key Verse	Judges 13:24 The woman gave birth to a boy and named him Samson. He grew and the Lord blessed him, and the Spirit of the Lord began to stir him.
Memory Verse	Joshua 24:15b "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."
Series Point	God showed that He would do "whatever it takes" to provide for His people. He asks us to do "whatever it takes" to serve Him in return.
Lesson Point	God does not want to use the strong, He wants to use the obedient.
Now what? (action steps)	I can trust no matter how hard it is, it is always worth it to obey.

### **Leader Preparation**

What can we say about Samson? He was a major dingbat! Yet despite all of his knuckleheadedness God chose him from birth for His (God's) purposes. Like most of Judges, the details of this story are often gory, full of promiscuity and sinfulness, and just plain unfit for children. Don't focus on the details, rather focus on the fact that God chose to use Samson for His purposes. Focus on the fact that Samson's strength came from God alone. Focus on the fact that as the Israelites lived in the Promised Land it became more and more apparent that when they followed the ways of people rather than God, things went badly for them. When they turned to God and followed God's ways, however, things went much better. God was molding His people, despite their stubborn hearts, into a people through which He would send the savior of the world

To give you some additional background into this story, please, please, please watch this video to find out incredibly helpful information about the book of judges at the link below. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kOYy8iCfIJ4>

If the link doesn't work for you, go to youtube and search for The Bible Project Read Scripture Judges

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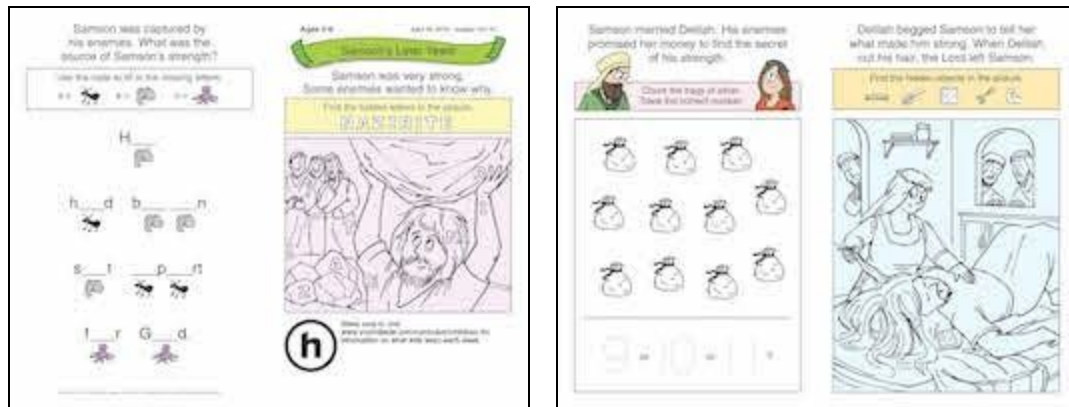
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### Early Arriver Activity:

Supplies: Activity page, writing utensils (pencils, markers, or crayons)



Give each child a copy of [Samson's Later Years Activity Page](#) to complete as they arrive.

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**Small Group Open (9:15-9:50; 11:15-11:50)**

### Intro Craft

#### **Samson's Hair Memory Verse Art**

Supplies: Disposable tablecovers  
Yarn  
Glue  
Popsicle sticks  
Plates (for glue)  
Watercolor Paper  
Watercolor Sets  
Paintbrushes  
Scissors  
Small cups and water  
Ball point pens  
Wipes (for cleanup)

***Say:** Today we are finishing up our study in Judges as we learn about the judge named Samson. Samson had super strength that was a big part of his story. We will learn that his strength came from God and he had to be obedient to God's command not to cut his hair in order to keep his strength. So, as you can imagine, Samson had long hair! We are going to make an art project with yarn that can remind us of Samson's hair and we are also going to write our memory verse on it. Can anyone say the memory verse?*



#### **Instructions:**

1. Cut the yarn into long strands and dip the entire thread into some glue.
2. Use a popsicle stick to push the yarn around and get it covered in glue.

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3. Remove the yarn from the glue and dangle it over the watercolour paper and slowly lower the thread onto the paper, creating loops and unusual shapes as it's lowered.



4. Continue with multiple threads of yarn until the page is full of swirly yarn.
5. Leave to dry during large group.

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**Following the times listed below, at the appropriate time gather the children to take them to Large Group.**

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**Large Group in Rainbow Room (9:50-10:10; 11:50-12:10)**

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**Small Group Close (10:10-10:30; 12:10-12:30)**

As the children work on their activities, talk about what you learned during large group. Make sure to emphasize the Series Point

**God showed that He would do "whatever it takes" to provide for His people. He asks us to do "whatever it takes" to serve Him in return.**

and the Lesson Point

**God does not want to use the strong, He wants to use the obedient.**

and the action steps

**I can trust no matter how hard it is, it is always worth it to obey.**

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### **Craft (continued):**



6. With the yarn now dry, have the kids use the ballpoint pens to add the words of the memory verse to their art by writing a single word inside a loop of yarn on the page until all of the words of the verse are on the page.

7. Finally, fill in all of the loops with watercolors, using various colors, shades and combinations.

***Ask:*** Has there been anything surprising to you about our study of Judges? What does Samson's story teach us about God? What does it teach us about people? What do you do when it's hard to obey?

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### Game

#### **Bowling for Pillars**

Supplies: 3 pillars (bowling pins, bottled water, stacks of blocks or other pillar-like materials)

Rubber or plastic ball

Masking tape

***Say:** Let's talk some more about Samson's strength. Samson thought he was strong just because God made him strong on the outside. But to have real strength it does not matter how strong we are on the outside. Our real strength—strength of spirit, mind and body—comes from the Heavenly Father.*

- *What does it mean to be strong physically?*
- *How does a person grow stronger physically?*

*Exodus 15:2 tells us that "The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation." God should be our source of strength. Let's play a game that reminds us of part of Samson's story.*

#### **Instructions:**

Set up three pillars in a triangle shape at one end of the playing area. At the other end of the area, mark a starting line with masking tape. Players should try to knock down the pillars by bowling the ball toward them. Each player gets two tries to knock down the pillars before moving on to the next player. Award one point for each toppled pillar. Repeat for an equal number of rounds for each player. The player with the most points wins.

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**Ask:**

- *What does it mean to be strong spiritually, to be strong inside?*
- *How can a person grow stronger spiritually?*

**Dismissal:**

Parent pick up. Teachers please check tags of parents and child to see they match. Have a blessed day!