

# SAMSON DIES

## *Judges 16:21-31*

### **Judges 16**

<sup>21</sup>Then the Philistines seized him, gouged out his eyes and took him down to Gaza. Binding him with bronze shackles, they set him to grinding in the prison. <sup>22</sup>But the hair on his head began to grow again after it had been shaved.

<sup>23</sup>Now the rulers of the Philistines assembled to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to celebrate, saying, “Our god has delivered Samson, our enemy, into our hands.”

<sup>24</sup>When the people saw him, they praised their god, saying,

“Our god has delivered our enemy into our hands,  
the one who laid waste our land  
and multiplied our slain.”

<sup>25</sup>While they were in high spirits, they shouted, “Bring out Samson to entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he performed for them.

When they stood him among the pillars, <sup>26</sup>Samson said to the servant who held his hand, “Put me where I can feel the pillars that support the temple, so that I may lean against them.” <sup>27</sup>Now the temple was

crowded with men and women; all the rulers of the Philistines were there, and on the roof were about three thousand men and women watching Samson perform. <sup>28</sup>Then Samson prayed to the LORD, “O Sovereign LORD, remember me. O God, please strengthen me just once more, and let me with one blow get revenge on the Philistines for my two eyes.” <sup>29</sup>Then Samson reached toward the two central pillars on which the temple stood. Bracing himself against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other, <sup>30</sup>Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines!” Then he pushed with all his might, and down came the temple on the rulers and all the people in it. Thus he killed many more when he died than while he lived.

<sup>31</sup>Then his brothers and his father’s whole family went down to get him. They brought him back and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of Manoah his father. He had led Israel twenty years.

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POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) What did the Philistines do to Samson's eyes?
5		2.) What did Samson ask the Lord to do when he was in the temple?
5		3.) How did Samson kill the Philistines?
5		4.) Why do you think God gave Samson his strength back?

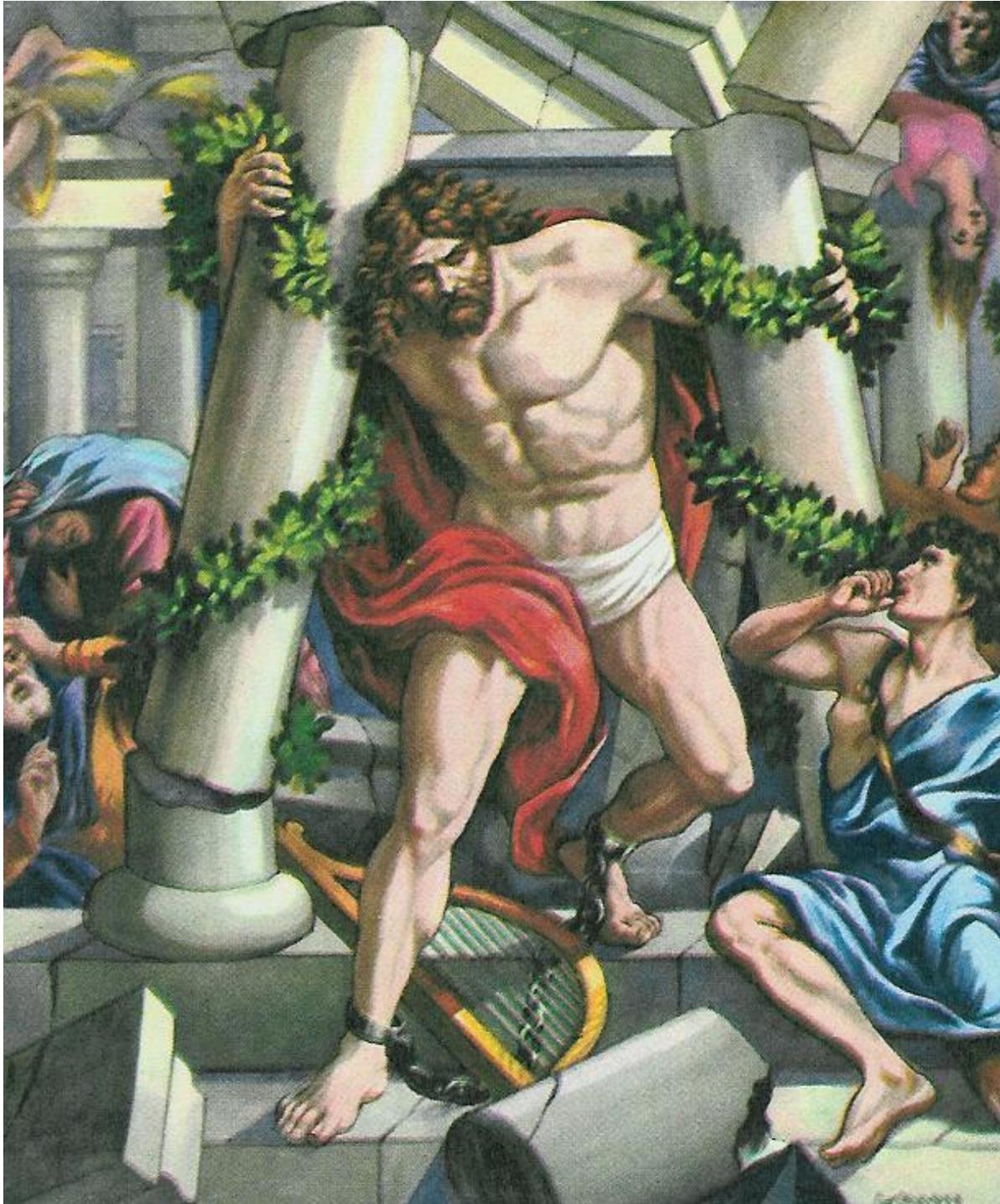
POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		<p>“Hear my voice when I call, O LORD; be merciful to me and answer me.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Psalm 27:7</p>

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	HOME CONNECTION	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE
5		<i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i>	
5		<i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i>	
10		<i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i>	

TOTAL POINTS	CLUB CONNECTION
	LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE ___/___/___

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*Judges 16:21-31*



Picture from *The Bible in Pictures for Little Eyes* by Kenneth N. Taylor. Moody Press: Copyright © 1956.

# SAMSON DIES

*Judges 16:21-31*



*Samson brings down the Philistine's temple with his great strength*

# SAMSON DIES

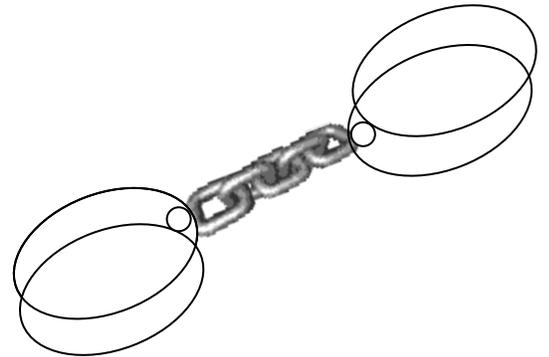
*Judges 16:21-31*

## CRAFT/ACTIVITY: SHACKLES

Students will make shackles to remind them that Samson was bound with bronze shackles in prison while his hair began to grow back.

### MATERIALS

1. Construction Paper
2. Scissors
3. Hole Punch
4. Small Paper Clips
5. Tape



### DIRECTIONS

1. Cut construction paper into strips that are 1" x 9".
2. Punch two holes in the center of each strip of paper ( $\frac{1}{2}$ " apart).
3. Pass out two strips of construction paper and 8 small paper clips to each student.
4. Have students connect the eight paper clips together like a chain.
5. Tape each strip of paper into a ring.
6. Connect one side of the "chain" to one of the paper rings by sliding the paper clip through the two holes. Repeat with the other paper ring.

### FOR DISCUSSION

As students are making their "shackles", remind them that Samson had no power because his hair had been shaved off. God used Samson to wipe out more Philistines in their own temple. God answered Samson's request to regain his strength once more. God was merciful answered his prayer. Help students realize that we can call out to the Lord as well, as our memory verse indicates.

### TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:

Approximately 10 minutes

### MEMORY VERSE

*"Hear my voice when I call, O Lord,; be merciful to me and answer me." Psalm 27:7*



# SAMSON DIES

## *Judges 16:21-31*

Sixteen words in this story from Judges 13:1 and 16:4-30 have been switched. The front letters of each switched word have been moved to the back. Circle the sixteen switched words, unscramble them, and write them correctly on a sheet of paper.

Samson was born while the Israelites were vessla of the Philistines. He fell in velo with Lilahde. The Philistines asked Delilah to find the retsec of Samson's engthstr.

Samson said, "No orraz has ever been used on my head. If my head were vedsha, my strength would leave."

Delilah shaved off Samson's irha while he was leepas. Samson stlo his strength and the Philistines seized him and put him in sonpri.

Samson was brought out to formper for the Philistines. He yedpra to the Lord for strength.

The Lord heard Samson's prayer, and when Samson pushed the larspil of the pletem, it came down on the rulers and all the people in it.



# THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON JUDGES 16:21-31

## SAMSON DIES



Last night, Philistines were seen gouging out Samson's eyes. Samson was placed in bronze shackles, said onlookers. The Philistines did not notice that

Samson's hair was beginning to grow back. They forgot his strength was in his hair.

The Philistines began to celebrate and worship a false god. During their celebration, Samson was forced to entertain them.

Samson tricked the Philistines. He asked to stand next to the pillars that held up the crowded temple. There were about 3,000 people in the temple.

"I heard Samson praying to God," a witness recalled, "Then, all at once, Samson pushed the pillars apart. The whole temple came crashing down on the Philistines and Samson. Thousands of people died."

Samson's family came to get Samson's body. They brought it back and buried him with his father.

For more details, please read Judges 16:21-31 in the Bible.

## QUESTIONS

1. What did the Philistines do to Samson?
2. How many people were in the temple celebrating?
3. What did Samson do because his eyes were gouged out?
4. Do you think Samson did the right thing? Why or why not?

## MEMORY VERSE

"Hear my voice when I call, O Lord; be merciful to me and answer me."

Psalm 27:7

## MATCHING

1. PILLAR            5 Metal cuffs used to keep hands tied
2. SAMSON            \_\_\_ Large columns used to support buildings
3. TEMPLE            \_\_\_ The man God used to destroy the Philistines
4. PHILISTINES      \_\_\_ A place of worship
5. SHACKLES        \_\_\_ Enemies of God's people

## Ideas For Home:

Today your child learned how God used Samson to destroy the Philistines.

1. Have your child finish coloring this book.
2. Help your child learn the *Memory Verse*.
3. Practice the *Bible Story Rhyme*.
4. Read and discuss the bible story with your child.
5. Have your child build a temple with building blocks and then have him/her knock it down.

Bible Story Mini Book

# Samson



*Judges 16:21-31*

Colored by: \_\_\_\_\_



Samson pulled down the  
pillars of the temple.  
The Philistines died.



God gave great power to  
Samson. When he lost his  
strength, he was put in  
jail.

## Memory Verse

“Hear my voice...O Lord...”  
Psalm 27:7

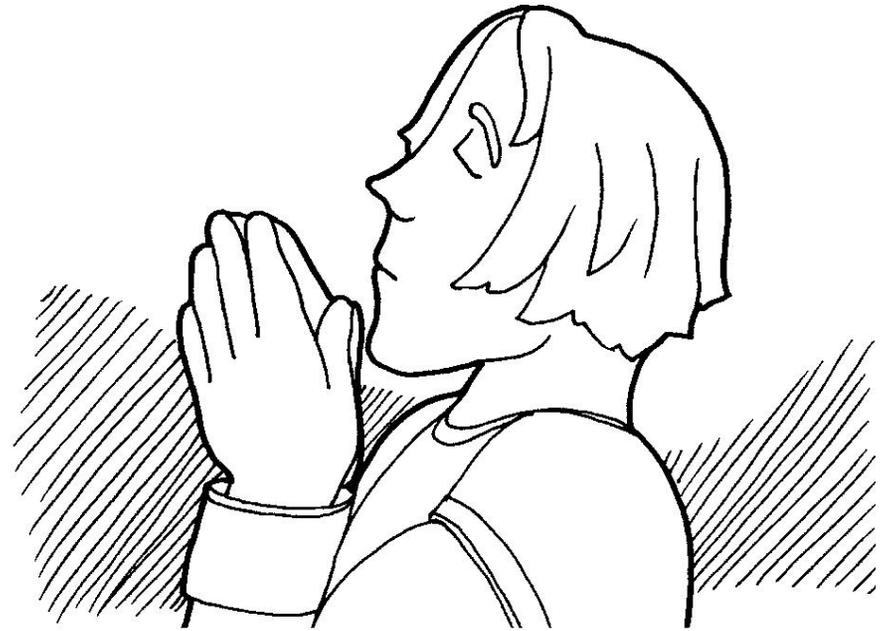
## Bible Story Rhyme

**Samson, Samson big and strong,**  
*(Hold up both arms and flex muscles)*

**Had great strength with hair grown long.**  
*(Pretend to brush hair once)*

**In the temple he was tied,**  
*(Place fists wrist to wrist as if tied together)*

**Pulled down pillars; then he died.**  
*(Bring fists from far away from body towards your chest)*



**Samson prayed and asked  
God to forgive him.**

## Have You Ever Sinned?

The Bible teaches that we have *all* sinned and do not measure up to God's glory. It also teaches that the price for sin is death which separates us from God. But even though we are sinners, Christ died for us and paid the price for our sin. We just need to ask him to forgive us and receive his free gift of salvation. Just pray this prayer, with a sincere heart, and Jesus will forgive you of your sins. You will become a child of God and live with Him in heaven.

*“Dear Jesus,*

*Please forgive me for the bad things that I have done. Please come into my heart and be my Lord and savior. In your name I pray, Amen.”*



In the temple, God gave Samson his strength back.

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*Judges 16:21-31*

## PRESCHOOL GAME

**Supplies:** table (with no chairs around it), building blocks

**S**ay: We're going to play a game called *Down Comes the Temple*. All of us will build a temple on the table. When it's done, I will tap someone on the head. That person gets to pretend to be Samson and knock down the temple. The rest of us will hide under the table where it is safe. The last person under the table will sit over here next the wall.

Repeat this game three times. Then let the three children who got out come back in to play. Repeat as many times as you wish!

# SAMSON DIES

*Joshua 16:21-31*

**PRESCHOOL BIBLE STORY RHYME**



**Samson, Samson big and strong,**  
*(Hold up both arms and flex muscles)*

**Had great strength with hair grown long.**  
*(Pretend to brush hair once)*

**In the temple he was tied,**  
*(Place fists wrist to wrist as if tied together)*

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