

SAMSON'S MARRIAGE

Judges 14:1-20

Judges 14

¹Samson went down to Timnah and saw there a young Philistine woman. ²When he returned, he said to his father and mother, "I have seen a Philistine woman in Timnah; now get her for me as my wife."

³His father and mother replied, "Isn't there an acceptable woman among your relatives or among all our people? Must you go to the uncircumcised Philistines to get a wife?"

But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me. She's the right one for me." ⁴(His parents did not know that this was from the LORD, who was seeking an occasion to confront the Philistines; for at that time they were ruling over Israel.) ⁵Samson went down to Timnah together with his father and mother. As they approached the vineyards of Timnah, suddenly a young lion came roaring toward him. ⁶The Spirit of the LORD came upon him in power so that he tore the lion apart with his bare hands as he might have torn a young goat. But he told neither his father nor his mother what he had done. ⁷Then he went down and talked with the woman, and he liked her.

⁸Some time later, when he went back to marry her, he turned aside to look at the lion's carcass. In it was a swarm of bees and some honey, ⁹which he scooped out with his hands and ate as he went along. When he rejoined his parents, he gave them some, and they too ate it. But he did not tell them that he had taken the honey from the lion's carcass.

¹⁰Now his father went down to see the woman. And Samson made a feast there, as was customary for bridegrooms. ¹¹When he appeared, he was given thirty companions.

¹²"Let me tell you a riddle," Samson said to them. "If you can give me the answer within the seven days of the feast, I will give you thirty linen garments and thirty sets of clothes. ¹³If you can't tell me the answer, you must give me thirty linen garments and thirty sets of clothes."

"Tell us your riddle," they said. "Let's hear it."

¹⁴He replied,

"Out of the eater, something to eat;
out of the strong, something sweet."

For three days they could not give the answer.

¹⁵On the fourth day, they said to Samson's wife, "Coax your husband into explaining the riddle for us, or we will burn you and your father's household to death. Did you invite us here to rob us?"

¹⁶Then Samson's wife threw herself on him, sobbing, "You hate me! You don't really love me. You've given my people a riddle, but you haven't told me the answer."

"I haven't even explained it to my father or mother," he replied, "so why should I explain it to you?" ¹⁷She cried the whole seven days of the feast. So on the seventh day he finally told her, because she continued to press him. She in turn explained the riddle to her people.

¹⁸Before sunset on the seventh day the men of the town said to him,

"What is sweeter than honey?
What is stronger than a lion?"

Samson said to them,

"If you had not plowed with my heifer,
you would not have solved my riddle."

¹⁹Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon him in power. He went down to Ashkelon, struck down thirty of their men, stripped them of their belongings and gave their clothes to those who had explained the riddle. Burning with anger, he went up to his father's house. ²⁰And Samson's wife was given to the friend who had attended him at his wedding.

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POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) What did Samson do to the young lion that came toward him?
5		2.) What did Samson promise the 30 companions if they answered his riddle?
5		3.) What did Samson's wife do so that Samson would explain the riddle to her?
5		4.) Why do you think Samson was so upset with his wife?

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		<p>"Better to live on a corner of the roof than share a house with a quarrelsome wife."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Proverbs 21:9</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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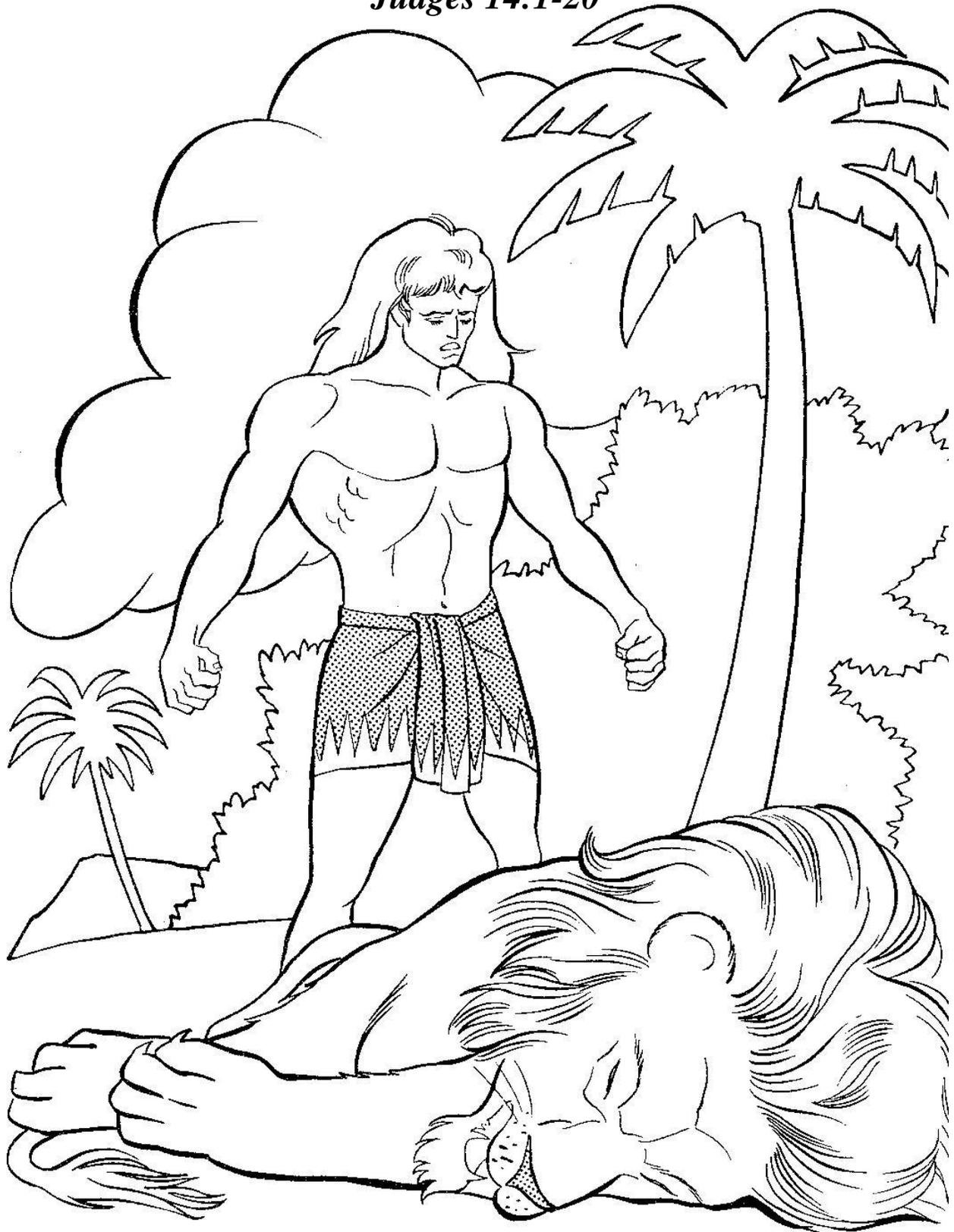
Judges 14:1-20



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SAMSON'S MARRIAGE

Judges 14:1-20



Samson tears apart a lion with his bare hands

SAMSON'S MARRIAGE

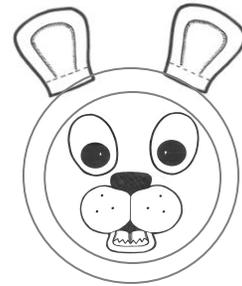
Judges 14:1-20

CRAFT/ACTIVITY: LIONS

Students will make a lion to remind them that Samson had the strength to tear apart a lion with his bare hands.

MATERIALS

1. 67 lb. Cardstock
2. Lion Face Pattern
3. Crayons, markers, or colored pencils
4. Scissors
5. Glue
6. Yellow Yarn
7. Paper Plates



DIRECTIONS

1. Make copies of the "Lion Face Pattern" onto 67lb. cardstock for each student.
2. Have students color the pieces of the lion's face.
3. Have students cut out each of the pieces and glue them to a paper plate.
4. Allow students to glue yarn onto the paper plate to resemble a mane.

FOR DISCUSSION

As students are working on their lions, help them recall that Samson was a strong man. God would use this strength later when Samson tore down the temple of the Philistines.

TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:

Approximately 20 minutes

MEMORY VERSE

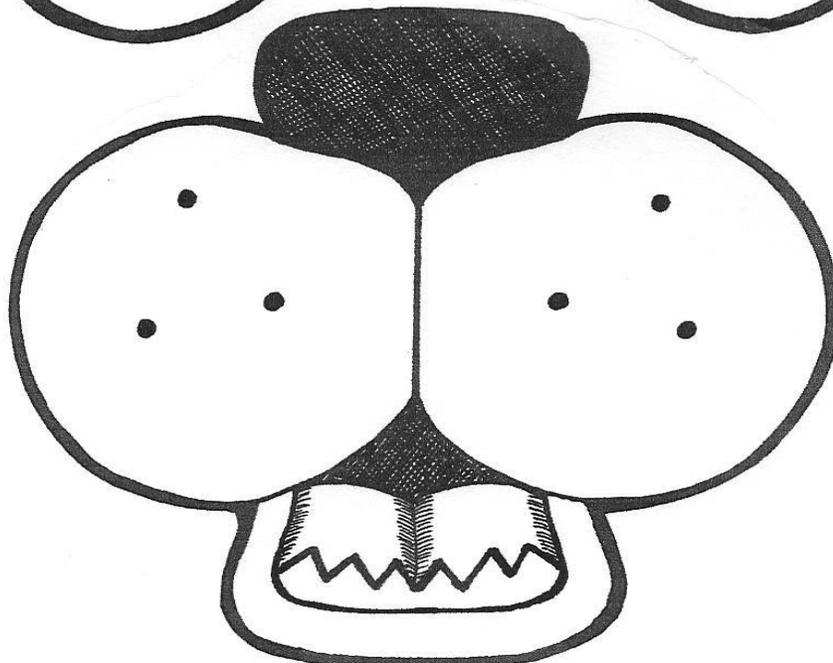
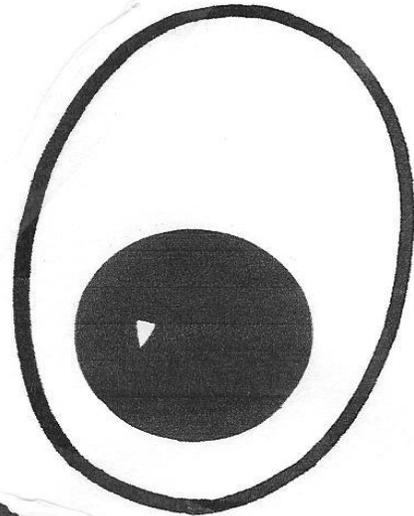
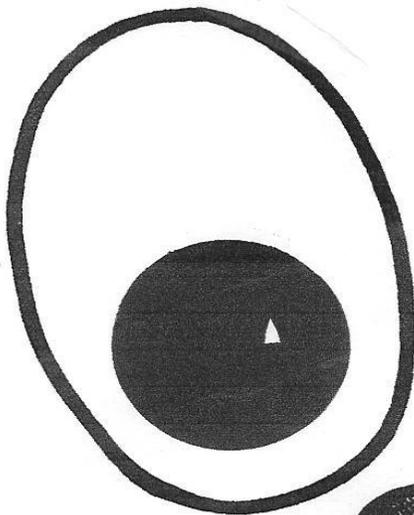
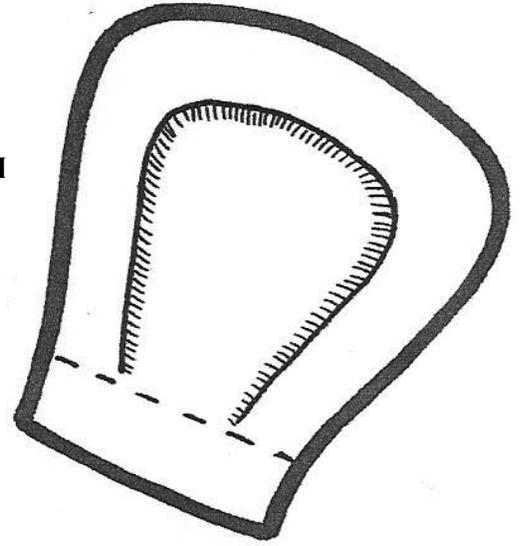
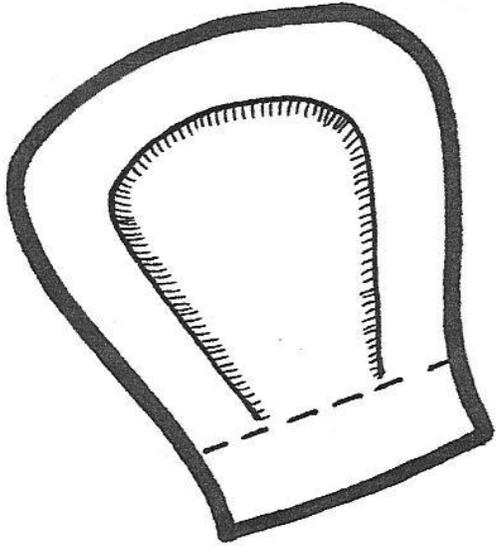
"Better to live on a corner of the roof than share a house with a quarrelsome wife."

Proverbs 21:9

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LION FACE PATTERN



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Directions: In box #1, draw a picture of something that happened at the *beginning* of the story. In box #2 and #3, draw a picture of something that happened in the *middle* of the story. In box #4, draw a picture of something that happened at the *end* of the story. Then write a sentence for each picture to describe what you have drawn.

1.

2.

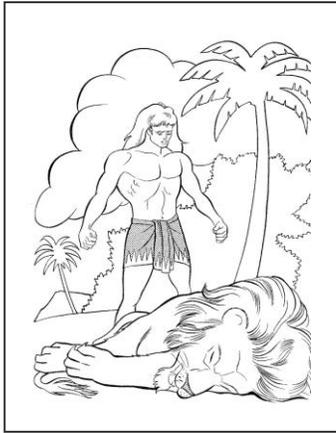
3.

4.

THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON JUDGES 14:1-20

SAMSON'S MARRIAGE



Sources tell us that Samson is interested in a young Philistine woman. He was seen with his father and mother walking toward the town of Timnah. This confused our

sources because the Israelites and the Philistines did not get along.

“I was surprised that Samson would be interested in marrying a Philistine,” remarked one woman.

On the way to Timnah, one witness saw a young lion racing toward Samson. The Lord must have been with Samson. In seconds, Samson had torn the lion apart with his bare hands. What strength he had!

Sometime later, Samson returned to the remains of the lion. Inside was a swarm of bees and some honey. Samson was seen scooping out honey to eat.

At his wedding, 30 friends listened to Samson tell a riddle. When they couldn't figure it out, they begged his wife to tell them the answer. After seven days of hearing his wife cry, Samson told his wife the answer to the riddle.

Samson was upset when his wife told his friends the answer to the riddle.

For more details, please read Judges 14:1-20 in the Bible.

QUESTIONS

1. What happened on the way to Timnah?
2. What did Samson tell his 30 friends?
3. What was Samson upset about?
4. Do you think Samson's wife should have told the answer to the riddle? Why or why not?

MEMORY VERSE

“Better to live on a corner of the roof than share a house with a quarrelsome wife.”

Proverbs 21:9

HELP SAMSON FIND THE LION

