



God Uses Samson to Deliver Israel

Judges 13–16



LESSON GOAL

Students will praise God, who delivers His people, and will use the gifts that God gives for His glory.

BIBLE TRUTHS

- God specially prepared Samson to deliver Israel.
- Although the Philistines defeated Samson, God was exalted.
- Samson's behavior was not always right, but God sovereignly accomplished His will through Samson's life.

KEY VERSE

"Then Samson called to the LORD, saying, 'O LORD God, remember me, I pray! Strengthen me, I pray, just this once, O God, that I may with one blow take vengeance on the Philistines for my two eyes!'" (Judges 16:28).

APPLICATION

- Thank God for saving sinners.
- Think of ways that you can serve God.
- Repent of your sin and obey God.
- Do everything for God's glory.

NEXT WEEK

God's Sovereignty in the Book of Ruth
Read the book of Ruth.

Symbol Key



Craft



Finger Play



Memory Verse



Object Lesson



Game



Visual Aid



Center



Activity



Q & A



Age Group

Teacher Planning Sheet

PREPARE

Objectives/Truths to cover this week

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Personal Application

As a result of my study in this passage, God wants me to

- _____
- _____
- _____

Three ways students need to apply this passage are

- _____
- _____
- _____

Materials Needed

POINT

Choose from various ideas to point students to the coming Bible lesson.

- _____
- _____

PROCLAIM

Choose from various ideas to proclaim the Bible lesson.

Presentation Ideas

- _____
- _____

Praise/Music Ideas

- _____
- _____
- _____

PRACTICE

Choose ideas to help review and apply today's lesson.

- _____
- _____

PREPARE WITH THE TRUTH

“Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul.... You shall teach them to your children” (Deuteronomy 11:18–19).

Please take time to prepare your mind and heart to accurately handle the truths of God’s Word (2 Tim. 2:15). Read through the Bible background and study the truths contained in this lesson. Crucial background information is included here to aid you in understanding the Scripture.

Bible Background

The book of Judges begins with Israel’s failure to drive the Canaanites from the Promised Land. Because Israel disobeyed God, He allowed the Canaanites to stay in the land to test whether Israel would obey Him or follow the Canaanites. Judges 3:7–16:31 records six cycles of Israel’s apostasy, the Lord’s punishment, Israel’s cry to God, and the Lord’s deliverance. Every time Israel disobeyed God, He sent a nation to oppress them. When they finally called to Him for help, He raised up men called judges to deliver the people from the oppressors. While the judges did amazing things through faith in and empowerment by God, the book of Judges shows that God used the judges in spite of who they were and not because of who they were. After being used by God to lead the defeat of Midian, Gideon was characterized by cruelty, vengeance, pride, and idolatry (Judg. 8). Jephthah, whose defeat of the Ammonites is recorded in the fifth cycle, was later marked by the sacrifice of his daughter and his killing of 42,000 Israelites (Judg. 11–12)! The sixth and last cycle of deliverance involved Samson, who ignored his unique calling as deliverer (Judg. 13–16). The story of Samson is both a call to praise God, who graciously delivers His people, and a warning against failing to use God’s gifts for His glory.

God Calls a Deliverer for Israel (Judges 13)

The last cycle of Judges begins with Israel again doing evil in the eyes of the Lord and the Lord delivering them over to be oppressed by a pagan nation, the Philistines. The cycle comes to an abrupt halt when Israel fails to cry out to the Lord. While Israel never had deserved deliverance, now they showed no signs of even desiring it! But Israel’s failure to cry out to the Lord did not cause God to forsake them. Amazingly, the Lord called the next deliverer in the most dramatic way yet!

The angel of the Lord came to a barren Israelite woman, the wife of Manoah from the tribe of Dan, and told her that she would have a son who would begin to deliver Israel from the Philistines (Judg. 13:2–5). The angel announced that the son was to be a Nazirite. Numbers 6:1–8 describes how an Israelite could take a Nazirite vow and separate himself to the Lord. For a limited period of time, the Nazirite would refrain from drinking alcohol or eating anything made from grapes, from cutting the hair on his head, and from going near a dead body. This child of Manoah was to be a Nazirite, not by choice but by God’s calling, and not for a limited time but “from the womb to the day of his death” (13:7). Because he was to be a Nazirite from conception, even his mother was “not to drink wine or similar drink, and not to eat anything unclean” (13:4). The directions for raising the boy were confirmed to Manoah and his wife when the angel of the Lord came to them in response to Manoah’s prayer (13:8–23). As He had promised, God gave the barren woman a son, whom she named Samson (13:24). As Samson grew, he was blessed by the Lord.

Additional Reference Materials

Judges, Ruth; New American Commentary by Daniel I. Block

Such a Great Salvation: Expositions of the Book of Judges by Dale Ralph Davis

Ruth. In *The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 3* by F. B. Huey Jr.

Bible Knowledge Commentary: Old Testament by John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck, eds.

Judges. In *The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 3* by Herbert Wolf

The circumstances surrounding Samson's birth pointed to his becoming a powerful and righteous deliverer for Israel. His miraculous birth was announced by the angel of the Lord, his life was dedicated to the Lord under the Nazirite vow, and his youth was blessed by the Lord. Samson had the qualifications and preparation necessary to deliver Israel from the hand of the Philistines. When the Spirit of the Lord began to move Samson (Judg. 13:25), the reader expects Samson to begin battling the oppressors, as Gideon and Jephthah had (Judg. 6:34, 11:29). But sadly, chapter 14 begins with Samson showing no concern about following the Lord or delivering Israel!

God Begins Deliverance through Samson (Judg. 14–15)

Instead of battling Philistines, Samson wanted to marry a Philistine! Manoah and his wife were obviously disappointed, but the narrator reveals that Samson's "father and mother did not know that it was of the LORD—that He was seeking an occasion to move against the Philistines" (Judg. 14:4). Chapters 14–15 record how God began to deliver Israel through a strange chain of events, beginning with Samson's desire to disobey God and marry a Philistine. Despite Samson's lack of regard for the Lord, the Spirit of the Lord repeatedly strengthened him (14:6, 19; 15:14). The narrative slowly escalates from Samson killing a lion with his bare hands, to his killing 30 Philistines, and finally to his killing 1,000 Philistines with a donkey's jawbone. Both Samson and Israel are revealed to be in a poor spiritual state. Samson was disobedient to his parents and the Lord, disregarded his Nazirite vow, and was dominated by his desires, lusts, pride, and thirst for vengeance. In his victory, he did not glorify the Lord (15:16) and acknowledged the Lord only when he was thirsty and concerned for his own life (15:18). Samson's claim to be God's servant is questionable in light of his continual disregard of the Law. The spiritual condition of Israel was no better. When Samson was being pursued by Philistines, the men of Judah came to arrest Samson with 3,000 men because they wanted to maintain peace with the Philistines (15:11–12). God's punishment for their rebellion had become an accepted way of life.

God Continues Deliverance through Samson's Unfaithfulness (Judg. 16)

Samson's victory over the Philistines resulted in his leading Israel for 20 years "in the days of the Philistines" (Judg. 15:20). Unlike other judges, whose reigns resulted in the land having rest, Samson led Israel during a period of Philistine domination. Chapter 16 begins with a short, mysterious account of Samson going to Gaza, one of the five major Philistine cities, 45 miles from his home, to visit a prostitute (16:1)! Samson obviously had learned little from his previous encounter with a Philistine woman. Even so far from his home, the Philistines hated Samson and desired to capture him. Aware of the plot, Samson snuck out of the city, tore down its massive gates, and carried them 40 miles to the top of a hill in Israel. Although God's Spirit is not mentioned in connection with the mighty act, surely God again was using Samson's sin, his hostility toward the Philistines, and his powerful desire for revenge to destroy complacent relations between the Israelites and the Philistines.

Even after his second disastrous encounter with a Philistine woman, Samson again "loved a woman in the valley of Sorek" (Judg. 16:4). The Valley of Sorek, although not far from his hometown, still was in a Philistine territory. Too much had happened between the Philistines and Samson for the Philistines to pass up this opportunity to capture Samson while he was in territory under their control. Disappointingly, Samson was not in the enemy territory to plan an overthrow of the Philistines, but to satisfy his lusts. While Samson's first wife had betrayed him after she was threatened, Delilah was simply willing to betray Samson for a vast

amount of money (each Philistine governor offering 1,100 pieces of silver). The Philistines were aware that Samson's strength was supernatural and asked Delilah to find out how they could overpower him (16:5).

Delilah was alarmingly open in her request: "Please tell me where your great strength lies, and with what you may be bound to afflict you" (Judg. 16:6). Samson lied to Delilah three times, deceiving her about how he could be defeated. Every time Delilah thought that she had weakened Samson and called the Philistines to capture him, he quickly escaped the trap. Samson obviously was enjoying taunting the Philistines by giving them false hope and then using his God-given strength to escape. As his first wife had done, Delilah began to accuse Samson of not loving her (because he did not let her trap him). Despite his physical strength, Samson revealed his weakness of character and gave in to Delilah's demands. Because "she pestered him daily with her words and pressed him, so that his soul was vexed to death...he told her all his heart, and said to her, 'No razor has ever come upon my head, for I have been a Nazirite to God from my mother's womb'" (16:16-17). For the first time in the narrative, Samson reveals that he knew of his Nazirite calling, even though he had disobeyed God throughout his life. How could he so willingly throw away this knowledge to a woman he knew was seeking his downfall? Samson's lust had overpowered both his common sense and his devotion to God.

When Samson had revealed "his heart" to Delilah, she knew that she had found out the truth (16:18). Once more, she planned a trap for Samson, even succeeding at having a man sneak in and cut off his hair (16:19). When she awoke Samson to tell him of the approaching Philistines, he said, "I will go out as before, at other times, and shake myself free" (16:20). Could it be possible that Samson did not notice his missing hair? Or had he assumed that God would still strengthen him no matter how much he disregarded his Nazirite call? For whatever reason, Samson "did not know that the LORD had departed from him" (16:20). He could no longer toy with Delilah and the Philistines. Previously, God had strengthened Samson regardless of his disobedience. Now God accomplished His sovereign work by allowing Samson to bear the consequences of his frivolous regard for the Lord. Samson was captured, blinded, and brought to the Philistine city of Gaza, where he was placed in bronze fetters and forced to grind flour (16:21). But all was not lost. Though Samson had forsaken his divine calling as a Nazirite, "the hair of his head began to grow again after it had been shaven" (16:22). God was not finished delivering Israel through Samson.

The Philistines appear to have had a better understanding of what was at stake with Samson's capture than Samson himself did. Despite Samson's willingness to join with the enemy, God had engineered events so that the Philistines hated Samson. The Philistines rejoiced and praised their false god Dagon for delivering their enemy Samson to them (16:23-24). They understood that the contest between them and Samson was a contest to see whose god would win. Enjoying their god's seeming victory, the Philistines called for Samson to perform before them. Having asked his guide to place his hands on the pillars that supported the temple (16:26), blind Samson prayed to the Lord, "O LORD God, remember me, I pray! Strengthen me, I pray, just this once, O God, that I may with one blow take vengeance on the Philistines for my two eyes!" (16:28). Samson, who had shown so little concern for God during his life, exercised tremendous faith in God when he asked Him for strength to destroy the Philistines. Although Samson should have been motivated to destroy the Philistines more for their pagan worship than for personal vengeance, God had worked events so that Samson once again hated the Philistines enough to kill them. As throughout the story, Samson still was motivated by his own program rather than by a desire to deliver Israel. Personal vengeance

was enough of a victory for Samson. He was willing to die with the Philistines as long as he took enough of them with him (16:30). Pushing against the two pillars, Samson caused enough damage to the temple's support so that the temple fell inward, killing the Philistine lords inside and the 3,000 people who were watching from the roof. In summary, the narrator of Judges says, "So the dead that he killed at his death were more than he had killed in his life" (16:30).

Samson had been enabled to kill 1,000 men with a jawbone and 3,000 in his death; how much more of a deliverer could he have been if he had followed God with all his heart? Samson ignored his calling and preparation as a deliverer as he squandered his life chasing the satisfaction of his flesh and his desire for vengeance. Of the six cycles in Judges, the cycle of Samson best reveals that God delivered Israel because of who He is and despite who they were. Throughout the story of Samson, Israel was perfectly content existing under Philistine domination, and Samson was content to have relationships with Philistine women. It was God alone who caused Samson to be hated by the Philistines and who strengthened him so that the Philistines were defeated. Although both Samson and Israel had been given a divine calling, blessing, and strengthening, it was only God who exercised concern for the deliverance of His people.

POINT TO THE TRUTH

"Give ear, O my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth" (Psalm 78:1).

This section includes questions to review last week's lesson and ideas to prepare students for this week's lesson. Choose from the following ideas to point to the truths of this lesson.



Review Questions

Use these questions to review and reinforce key truths.

Who was ruling over the Israelites?

The Midianites.

Did the Midianites treat the Israelites with kindness?

No. The Midianites stole the Israelites' food, tents, and animals.

Whom did God choose to lead Israel in defeating the Midianites?

Gideon.

Was Gideon glad that God had chosen him to lead Israel?

No. Gideon was angry and blamed God for Israel's circumstances.

Did God promise to help Gideon?

Yes.

What did the Israelites soldiers take to battle?

Each soldier took a pitcher, a torch, and a trumpet.

How did the Israelites defeat the Midianites?

They went into the Midianites' camp in the middle of the night, blew the trum-

pets, and smashed the pitchers with the torches inside. The Midianites were so afraid that they became confused and started fighting one another.

What do we learn about God from this lesson?

God shows grace to His chosen people and saves them, not because they deserve it, but in order to glorify Himself.



Supernatural Strength

Bring in various weights or heavy objects, and allow the students (under careful supervision) to lift them to see how heavy they are. (Instruct the students to bend from the knees, not the waist, when lifting the objects, so they do not injure their backs.) Tell the students that today they will learn about a man with supernatural strength. His name was Samson. He could lift huge weights with no problem. He was so strong that he could kill a lion with his bare hands. Have the students show their muscles, and ask how they got their muscles. They got them from God. Samson was very strong because God gave him his strength.



Nazirite Vows

The Hebrew term behind the word *Nazirite* literally means “to separate.” A Nazirite separated himself to the Lord by separating himself from certain things such as wine, touching dead bodies, and cutting the hair (Num 6:1–8). A person wishing to show dedication and devotion to God could choose to take a Nazirite vow for a fixed period of time. During this time, he would be regarded as holy to the Lord. A modern counterpart would be becoming a monk or nun or deciding to fast. Ask the students whether they ever have given something up in order to devote time to God. (Some examples may include not playing a certain sport so that they can go to church, going to a Bible club rather than watching their favorite television program, etc.) What is it like to give something up for God?



A Promise

Ask the students whether they ever have made a promise (to take out the trash, to obey an older brother or sister, to clean their room, etc.). Ask them if it was easy or hard to keep that promise. Talk about how important it is to keep promises completely and not half-heartedly. Talk about the promise that Samson had to make, the Nazirite vow. Tell them that Samson’s promise was not just a promise to another person, but was a promise was made to God.

PROCLAIM THE TRUTH

“Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done” (Psalm 78:4).

This section includes the Bible lesson, lesson questions, and praise and worship ideas. Song suggestions are included that you can use to proclaim your worship to God. Use the lesson questions to check the students’ understanding. This section also includes various presentation ideas to use during the teaching time. Read the Bible passage several times before you read these pages. All teaching should be done directly from the Bible.

Bible Lesson

Today we are going to learn another story about God saving the Israelites. Once again, the Israelites were being treated very badly by a group of people in the Promised Land. This time it was the Philistines. Why do you think that the Israelites were having such a hard time? It was because they were being disobedient to God, so God was allowing other nations to treat them badly to punish them. Life was very bad for the Israelites, and only God could help them. But the Israelites were so sinful that they would not even ask God for help. But do you know what? God decided to help them anyway. The Israelites certainly did not deserve God’s help, but what’s worse is that they would not even ask for it. But God is very gracious, and He saves people even when they are so wicked that they will not ask for help.

God decided to use a man named Samson to deliver the Israelites from their enemies. God chose to use Samson before he was even born. One day, the angel of the Lord came to an Israelite woman who did not have any children and told her that she was going to have a baby. The baby would be very special. The angel told the woman to take special care of her baby, and to set him aside for the Lord, because one day, when he was grown up, the Lord would use him to deliver the Israelites from the Philistines. He was to be a Nazirite from birth. Do you know what a Nazirite was? A Nazirite was someone who would separate himself from certain things for a specific time. He would do this as an act of holiness to the Lord. A Nazirite was not to drink wine, touch dead bodies, or cut his hair. Samson was to be a Nazirite for his whole life.

God blessed Samson greatly when he was growing up, and when he was grown, God’s Spirit came on him to use him to defeat the Philistines. What do you think happened? Do you think Samson defeated the Philistines? He did not. Samson did not obey God. He did not want to help the Israelites and defeated the Philistines. He was being selfish. Instead of fighting against the Philistines, he met a Philistine woman and decided to marry her. Do you think Samson’s disobedience could stop God from delivering the Israelites? No! God used Samson anyway. God made Samson very, very strong. He was so strong that one day, while he was walking to the town, he came across a great, big lion, and he fought the lion. Samson killed the lion with his bare hands! When Samson realized how strong he was, he went and killed more than 1,000 Philistines all by himself. But even though God had given Samson this great strength, Samson was disobedient to God’s laws. He did many wicked things. But God used Samson in spite of his sinfulness.

The Israelites raised up Samson as their leader because they thought he could protect them from the Philistines. But the Philistines hated Samson so much that they wanted to kill him. Samson gave the Philistines the perfect opportunity to get to him. Samson had fallen in love with a Philistine woman named Delilah.

When the Philistine leaders found out that Samson loved Delilah, they called Delilah in for a meeting. They told her that if she could find out the secret to Samson's super strength, they each would give her 1,100 pieces of silver. Delilah agreed to do it. She asked Samson what his secret was. Samson lied to Delilah three times, and each time the Philistines tried to capture him, Samson was able to break free.

Delilah was determined to learn Samson's secrets. So she kept asking him to tell them to her. Samson became irritated with her, and finally told her his secret just to make her be quiet. He said, "If you cut my hair, I will not be strong anymore." So what do you think happened? Delilah told the Philistine leaders, and they had Samson's hair cut while he was sleeping. When Samson woke up, the Philistines captured him, blinded him, and put him in prison. It did not seem that the Israelites could be saved from the Philistines by Samson anymore. But God was in charge, and neither Samson nor the Philistines could mess up God's plan.

The Philistines tied Samson to the bottom of their temple, where they worshiped their idols. There were a lot of Philistines in the temple, so Samson thought if he could make the building fall down, he could get back at the Philistines for capturing him. He was so mad at the Philistines that he did not even care if he was crushed by the building when it fell. Samson was getting his strength back as his hair was growing back, but he wanted to be sure to succeed, so he prayed to God, "Please help me get back at the Philistines!" God knew that Samson only wanted to beat the Philistines for selfish reasons, but he used Samson anyway. God gave Samson extra strength, Samson pushed very hard on the pillars that held up the temple, and it fell down. There were thousands of people inside, including the Philistine leaders, and they all died along with Samson.

God had chosen Samson to save the Israelites from the Philistines, but Samson ignored God's calling and followed his own sinful ways. God's plans can't be messed up or changed by people, however. God even used Samson's disobedience to accomplish what He wanted to happen.



Lesson Questions

Whom did God choose to help Israel conquer the Philistines?
Samson.

What did God give Samson to help him fight the Philistines?
God gave Samson great strength.

Was Samson obedient to God?
No. Samson disobeyed God's laws.

Who tried to find out the secret to Samson's strength?
Delilah.

Did Samson tell her what made him strong?
Yes. Samson told Delilah that if his hair was cut, he would lose his strength.

What happened when Samson's hair was cut?
Samson lost his strength and was captured by the Philistines.

Whom did Samson ask for strength to destroy the Philistines?
God.



Presentation Ideas

A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards

Use appropriate A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards with the lesson.



Betty Lukens Flannelgraph

Use appropriate flannelgraph pieces with the lesson.



Chain of Events

The events in Samson's life clearly showed the hand of God over every detail. Use various pictures or toys as visual aids during the lesson—for example, a bone, gate, lion, honey, a Barbie doll (to represent Samson's wives), scissors, and rope. God sovereignly used this chain of events to incite Samson against the Philistines. If God could use every detail of Samson's life, He can use the details in your life, too.

Praise and Worship

Change My Heart, Oh God

Come, Let Us Worship and Bow Down

God Is So Good

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Make Me a Servant



Samson Was a Nazirite

Samson was born a Nazirite,
(Hold right hand up as if taking a vow.)

Chosen by God to obey and fight.
(Pretend to pick something up from in front of you; make fist.)

But Samson chose to disobey,
(Shake hands and head back and forth.)

And to do things his own way.
(Put hands on hips.)

His enemies cut off his hair;
(Pretend to cut hair with fingers.)

God's power left him then and there.
(Point up; clap; shake head back and forth.)

Samson did not give God glory.
(Wag finger back and forth; point up.)

Listen and learn from his sad story.
(Shake head back and forth while holding hands open like a book.)

PRACTICE THE TRUTH

“That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments” (Psalm 78:7).

Choose ideas from this section to review and apply the truths of the Bible lesson.



Gifts for God’s Glory

Talk about the special gifts God gave Samson. Samson should have used these gifts to glorify God. Each of us has been given gifts that can be used to glorify God. Choose students to come forward and open the following wrapped presents, discussing how each can be used to glorify God: Bible (gift of reading, to know God and read to others); hymnal or song sheet (gift of voice and music, to praise and worship God); shoes (gift of ability to walk, to go visit others, spread gospel, and dance for joy); bag (gift of help/carrying/taking and strength/hard work/lifting); cooking pot (gift of helping, to bring meals to others and serve family). Also talk about how God can use us just the way we are, imperfect, and how that brings the glory to Him, not us.



“God Delivers” Game Board

Materials: copies of the “God Delivers” game board, crayons, buttons (for game pieces)

This preprinted game board can be colored in class and then played. Review the cycle of Israel’s disobedience, God’s punishment, and God’s deliverance through judges. Show the students that God helped Israel even while they were disobeying.



Samson Loses His Strength

Materials: toilet-paper tubes, fabric pieces, glue, markers, four-inch pieces of yarn, pencils, pipe cleaners, toothpicks, marshmallows

Directions: Give each student a toilet-paper tube to represent Samson, and let the students glue fabric around the bottom of their tubes (to represent Samson’s clothing). Have them draw a simple smiling face on the side of the tube. Glue or tape pieces of yarn to the inside of the tube for hair. Punch holes in the sides with the point of a pencil, and push a pipe cleaner through it to form arms. Make a barbell from a toothpick with a marshmallow pushed onto each end. Fold the end of one arm around the barbell. Practice pushing Samson’s hair inside the tube as if it has been cut short. Hide the barbell behind Samson or remove it from his arm when he loses his strength because of his disobedience in having his hair cut. The key verse could be glued to Samson’s back.



Save My Life

This craft is continued from the first and second weeks.

Materials: paper grocery bags, markers or crayons, scissors, glue sticks, yellow construction paper, aluminum foil or metallic paper

Directions:

Week 1: Cut each grocery bag into a vest. Write each child’s name on the left front.

Week 2: On the back of the vest, write “God is my Rescuer” in large letters. (For younger children, this could be photocopied on a sheet of paper that can be glued

to the back of the vest.) Cut strips of yellow construction paper and glue onto the bag as decorative stripes.

Week 3: Cut strips of foil or metallic paper and glue to the vests as reflectors.



God Made Me

Materials: copies of the “God Made Me” craft pages, crayons, glue sticks

Directions: Give each student a copy of the “God Made Me” craft pages. Students can use the boy and girl marionettes to represent themselves. Direct the students to glue the body parts and heads (or drawings of their own faces) to the base sheet. Students can print or sign their name at the bottom of the page, in the blank space.



Hero Award

Give each student a copy of the “God Is the Hero” craft page, printed on blue paper. Students can color, decorate, and cut out the ribbon. A safety pin or double-sided tape can be used to attach the ribbon to the student’s clothing.



Glory Placemat

Give each student a paper placemat or an 11x17-inch piece of paper to create a placemat. The students can glue disposable cups, plates, napkins, and plasticware to the placemat. At the bottom of the placemat, instruct them to glue the memory verse, 1 Corinthians 10:31: “Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”



Creative Coloring Sheets

Give each student copies of the coloring sheets at the back of the lesson. The students can glue yarn to Samson’s hair on the first coloring sheet. They could also cut off part of it. For the second coloring sheet, give the students two long strips of paper. Instruct them to tear the strips in half and glue them to the temple columns.

Coloring Sheets

Give each student copies of the coloring sheets at the back of the lesson. Students can color the pages in class or at home.



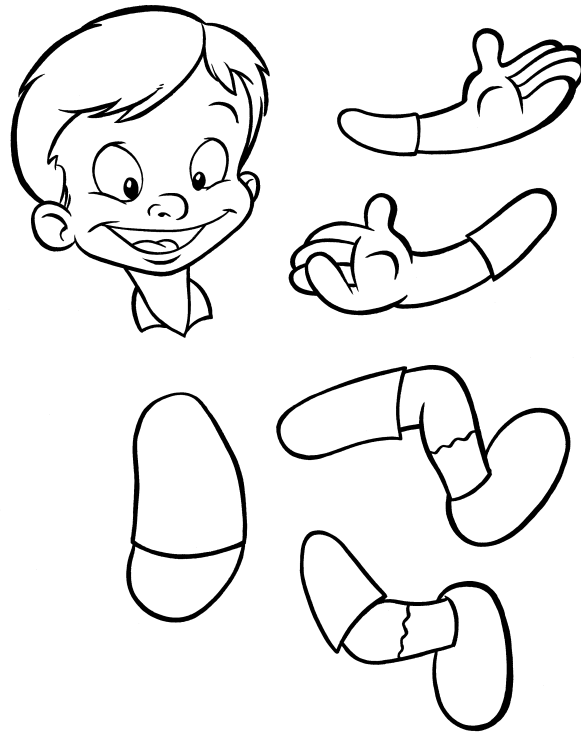
MEMORY VERSE

“Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31).

	<p>Israel disobeys, but God sends Samson to deliver them (Judg. 16:28).</p> <p>Move ahead two spaces.</p>				END
<h1 style="text-align: center;">God Delivers</h1> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Israel with Judges</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">To play: The object is to be the first player to move a game piece from “start” to “end.” Flip a coin. Move one space if the coin lands on heads. Move two spaces if the coin lands on tails.</p>					
<p style="text-align: center;">Israel disobeys, but God sends Gideon to deliver them (Judg. 6:12).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Move ahead two spaces.</p>					
	<p>Israel cries out to God.</p> <p>Move ahead one space.</p>	<p>Israel disobeys, but God sends Othniel to deliver them (Judg. 3:9).</p> <p>Move ahead two spaces.</p>			START

God Made Me

Thank You, God for making me.
Help me to use my strength to serve
You and bring glory to You. Love,



God Is the Hero





“[Samson] told her all his heart, and said to her, ‘No razor has ever come upon my head, for I have been a Nazirite to God from my mother’s womb. If I am shaven, then my strength will leave me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man’” (Judges 16:17).



“Then Samson called to the LORD, saying, ‘O LORD God, remember me, I pray! Strengthen me, I pray, just this once, O God, that I may with one blow take vengeance on the Philistines for my two eyes’” (Judges 16:28).

