



This week we will study about a man named Samson who was the strongest man on earth.



Torchlight

"In suffering and humiliation, a sport for the Philistines, Samson learned more of his own weakness than he had ever known before; and his afflictions led him to repentance. As his hair grew, his power gradually returned..."
– Patriarchs & Prophets p. 566



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Website: www adaywiththeking.com
Phone: (02) 4973 3456 (Int'l: +61-2-4973-3456)
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Samson

Daily Devotional 31



SUNDAY

LET'S PRAY Dearest Heavenly Father, thank You that I can come to You in prayer and speak to You. Please prompt me to do this every day. Help me to understand what I read in my Bible. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - ISAIAH 40:29

“He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Judges 13:1-25



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Our reading today tells us that the Philistines blinded Samson and put him in prison. Our torchlight tells us that this experience humbled Samson and he learned not to rely on his own physical strength but to rely on God's strength instead. During this time of hardship Samson repented and gave his heart back to God. Sometime later, the Philistines decided to have a celebration to worship their fish god, *Dagon*, and they called for Samson to perform for them. By this time, Samson's hair had grown back and with this, God had returned his power of strength. The Philistines felt no threat from Samson, as he was blind and bound up in chains. Samson cried out to God, and with one act of his mighty strength he caused the entire temple to come crashing down on the great crowd of Philistines and himself.

God had intended a happy and fulfilled life for Samson in serving Him and his fellow brethren. But instead, because of the way Samson chose to live his life, sadly his biggest impact was in his death. Through Samson's trials and afflictions God eventually got hold of his heart. This story is here in the Bible to show us that when we disobey God, our lives cannot honour and shine for Him. God wants our hearts now so our lives can be a blessing to others.



SABBATH QUIZ

1. What did the angel say Samson was to be from the womb?

2. What on Samson's body could not be cut? _____

3. Where did Samson find some honey? _____

4. To what did Samson catch and attach fiery torches?

5. What was Delilah's reward for betraying Samson?



SABBATH

LET'S PRAY Dear Father, help me to be joyful on Your Sabbath day. Thank You that I'm able to rest today from the busyness of the world. May I draw close to You as I study Your Bible. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - ISAIAH 40:29

“He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Judges 16:21-31



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

From our Bible reading today we find that the Israelites had sinned again and God allowed them to be oppressed by the Philistines. This was for a period of forty years. During this time an Angel of the LORD visited a woman, who was the wife of Manoah from the tribe of Dan. She had not been able to have children, but the angel told her that she was going to have a baby boy. The angel also told her that her son would be a Nazirite (Nazarite) and would deliver the Israelites from the Philistine rule. After Manoah found out the exciting news from his wife, he desired to hear the news for himself. After he had prayed the angel appeared again and repeated the good news to them as well



as instructions for Manoah's wife to follow during her pregnancy. Just like Gideon, Manoah wanted to offer a meal to the angel, but again the angel directed Manoah to make an offering to God, which God accepted by consuming it with fire. Manoah's wife did have a baby boy just as the angel told them and they called him Samson.

The *Remnant Young Scholar Study Bible* tell us in its dictionary that a Nazirite “was a person who was set apart from the world in complete dedication to God”. This was to be the life for Samson. Check out Numbers chapter 6 to find out the laws that a Nazirite had to live by.

FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - JUDGES 13:_____

“Then Manoah prayed to the LORD, and said, “O my Lord, please let the Man of God whom You sent come to _____.”

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





MONDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear God, help me to live the life You want me to live. Please help me to be kind to others so Your light shines through me. Thank You for taking care of all my needs. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - ISAIAH 40:29

“He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Judges 14:1-9



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading today, first tells us that Samson went to a place where he should not have been. The Philistines found out where he was and planned to kill him when he came out of the city in the morning. But Samson felt remorseful of his sin and left at midnight. At night the walled cities were locked up tight to prevent intruders. This didn't stop Samson. In his mighty strength, he just picked up the locked gate and carried it away. Not long after this, Samson started to have a relationship with a woman named Delilah to whom he was not married. The Philistines found out about this and approached Delilah and offered her a reward of eleven hundred pieces of silver if she could find the



source of Samson's strength. Our reading tells us that Delilah tried three times to find out, but was unsuccessful. Eventually Delilah pestered Samson so much that he told her the truth. Delilah shaved off Samson's hair while he slept and the Philistines overpowered him and captured him. Samson's strength was gone.

There were no magic powers in the hair itself, but it was Samson's last sign that he was a Nazirite. Samson had already broken so many of his Nazirite vows that his hair being shaved off was the 'last straw'. Verse 20 tells us the LORD left him.

FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - JUDGES 16:_____

“Therefore Delilah took new ropes and bound him with them, and said to him, ‘The Philistines are upon you Samson!’ And _____
_____, _____, _____.”

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





LET'S PRAY

MEMORY VERSE - ISAIAH 40:29

“He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength.”

THERE'S POWER IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Judges 16:1-20



Our reading today tells us that Samson wanted to marry a woman from the Philistines. Samson's parents tried to persuade him to choose a bride from the Israelite people but Samson chose to ignore their advice. During their travels of helping to organize the marriage, a lion came and attacked Samson and he killed it with his bare hands. One of Samson's gifts from God was his mighty strength. Verse 6 tells us that his parents were unaware that Samson had killed the lion. On a later trip, Samson discovered that bees had made a hive in the body of the dead lion, which he had killed earlier. He ate some of the honey and shared it with his parents, not telling them where it had come from.



Samson was not really living the life that God had planned for him to live. Numbers 6 tells us that a Nazirite was not to go near a dead body. Samson would have known that he should not touch the dead lion, let alone eat the honey that was inside it. Also Leviticus 11:27 tell us a lion was classed as an unclean animal as it had four paws. No wonder he didn't tell his parents where he got the honey! Ask God today to help you make the right choices in your life.

FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - JUDGES 14:

“ _____, _____, _____, _____ of the lion. And behold, a swarm of bees and honey were in the carcass of the lion.”

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





TUESDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear Father, thank You for keeping me safe as I slept last night. Please give me wisdom so that I can make good choices today. Help me to be helpful to someone as I go about my day. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - ISAIAH 40:29

“He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Judges 14:10-20



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading today tells us that the Philistines went up against the tribe of Judah and demanded they hand over Samson. Three thousand men from Judah went to the rock of Etam to arrest Samson so they could hand him over to the Philistines. The Israelites, at this time, were too scared to go up against the Philistines and were annoyed that Samson had caused problems with the enemy. Samson agreed that they could hand him over as long as they didn't kill him. So the Israelites tied Samson up and delivered him to the Philistines. But Samson, being so strong, broke loose from the ropes and single-handedly killed one thousand Philistines with the jawbone of a donkey. Hearing this, the Philistines fled and the Israelites made Samson a judge over them and this he did for the next twenty years.

The Israelite nation had lost their courage; they had lost sight of the mightiness of their God in delivering them. They were so afraid of their enemies that they were willing to hand over one of their brethren to keep the peace. Look up these verses: *Deuteronomy 31:6*, *Psalms 27:4*, and *Joshua 1:9*.



FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - JUDGES 15:_____

“And the men of Judah said, ‘Why have you come up against us?’ So they answered, ‘We _____,’ _____.”

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





THURSDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear God, help me not to be scared of following and staying strong for You. Thank You for my Bible, help me to understand what I read and apply it to my life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - ISAIAH 40:29

“He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Judges 15:9-20



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Today we read that the marriage feast of Samson and the Philistine woman took place and it went for seven days. Samson decided to challenge thirty of the male wedding guests with a riddle. He promised a prize of new clothes if they could guess the answer correctly. The riddle's answer was to do with the lion he had killed and the honey he had found inside. After three days the guests could not work out the answer and they went to Samson's new bride and threatened her life if she did not trick Samson into telling her. This she did and the thirty male wedding guests came to Samson and gave the correct answer. Samson was so angry at his new wife's betrayal that he went out



and killed thirty Philistines and gave their clothes to the wedding guests as their prize. Samson left the feast and went home leaving his new bride behind. Samson's father in law gave his daughter to Samson's best man.

Being betrayed is not a very nice thing to happen to anyone. But Jesus was betrayed. He was betrayed by the very people He came to save. It broke His heart. But even so, His love for us was so strong that He died on the cross so we could have eternal life with Him. Our God is mighty to save!

FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - JUDGES 14:_____

“ _____: ‘ _____
____, _____ the strong came something sweet.’ Now for three days they could not explain the riddle.”

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





MEMORY VERSE - ISAIAH 40:29

“He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength.”

THERE'S POWER IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Judges 15:1-8



Our Bible reading today tells us that Samson, after cooling off, decided to go back and get his new bride. After finding out that she had been given to another man, Samson, in his fury, went and ruined the Philistine crops using foxes and torches. In protest the Philistines murdered Samson's bride and her father. In revenge, Samson went out and killed a great number of Philistines.

Phew, our reading today is a bit intense! There is a lot of revenge and ‘tit for tat’ going on! I wonder if some of this could have been avoided if Samson had done the right thing in the first place – if he had heeded his parent’s advice by not marrying the enemy but had chosen a wife from his own people. Perhaps God had intended Samson to deliver his people another way. It’s something to think about. Read *Exodus 20:12* and *Ephesians 6:1-4*.



FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - JUDGES 15:_____

"Then Samson went and caught three hundred foxes; and he took torches, turned the _____," _____

_____.

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?

