

Story Time - Read the story to the children
Lesson 65: SAMSON AND DELILAH
JUDGES 16:4-21

Some time later, Samson fell in love with a woman named Delilah, who lived in Sorek Valley. The Philistine rulers went to Delilah and said, "Trick Samson into telling you what makes him so strong and what can make him weak. Then we can tie him up so he can't get away. If you find out his secret, we will each give you one thousand one hundred pieces of silver." The next time Samson was at Delilah's house, she asked, "Samson, what makes you so strong? How can I tie you up so you can't get away? Come on, you can tell me." Samson answered, "If someone ties me up with seven new bowstrings that have never been dried out, it will make me just as weak as anyone else." The Philistine rulers gave seven new bowstrings to Delilah. They also told some of their soldiers to go to Delilah's house and hide in the room where Samson and Delilah were. If the bowstrings made Samson weak, they would be able to capture him. Delilah tied up Samson with the bowstrings and shouted, "Samson, the Philistines are attacking!" Samson snapped the bowstrings, as though they were pieces of dried up string. The Philistines had not found out why Samson was so strong. "You lied and made me look like a fool," Delilah said. "Now tell me. How can I really tie you up?" Samson answered, "Use some new ropes. If I'm tied up with ropes that have never been used, I'll be just as weak as anyone else." Delilah got new ropes and again had some Philistines hide in the room. Then she tied up Samson's arms and shouted, "Samson, the Philistines are attacking!" Samson snapped the ropes as if they were threads. "You're still lying and making a fool of me," Delilah said. "Tell me how I can tie you up!" "My hair is in seven braids," Samson replied. "If you weave my braids into the threads on a loom and nail the loom to a wall, then I will be as weak as anyone else." While Samson was asleep, Delilah wove his braids into the threads on a loom and nailed the loom to a wall. Then she shouted, "Samson, the Philistines are attacking!" Samson woke up and pulled the loom completely away from its posts in the ground and from the nails in the wall. Then he easily pulled his hair out of the woven cloth. "Samson," Delilah said, "you claim to love me, but you don't mean it! You've made me look like a fool three times now, and you still haven't told me why you are so strong." Delilah started nagging and pestering him day after day, until he couldn't stand it any longer. Finally, Samson told her the truth. "I have belonged to God ever since I was born, so my hair has never been cut. If it were ever cut off, my strength would leave me, and I would be as weak as anyone else." Delilah realized that he

was telling the truth. So she sent someone to tell the Philistine rulers, "Come to my house one more time. Samson has finally told me the truth." The Philistine rulers went to Delilah's house, and they brought along the silver they had promised her. Delilah had lulled Samson to sleep with his head resting in her lap. She signaled to one of the Philistine men as she began cutting off Samson's seven braids. And by the time she was finished, Samson's strength was gone. Delilah tied him up and shouted, "Samson, the Philistines are attacking!" Samson woke up and thought, "I'll break loose and escape, just as I always do." He did not realize that the LORD had stopped helping him. The Philistines grabbed Samson and poked out his eyes, making him blind. They took him to the prison in a place called Gaza and chained him up. Then they put him to work, turning a big millstone to grind grain, like animals did.

65. SAMSON AND DELILAH

(JUDGES 16:4-21)



“And it came to pass afterward, that he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek,
whose name was Delilah.”

JUDGES 16:4

65. SAMSON AND DELILAH

(JUDGES 16:4-21)

MEMORY VERSE:

"I have belonged to God ever since I was born, so my hair has never been cut." **JUDGES 6:16**

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Samson "loved a woman in the Valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah".
TRUE or FALSE
2. The Philistines told Delilah to find out how Samson was so strong, and how they could make him weak so they could tie him up. TRUE or FALSE
3. Samson told Delilah that if they got his hair wet it would make him as weak as anyone else. TRUE or FALSE
4. The Philistines told Delilah that if she found out where Samson's strength came from, each one of them would give her one thousand one hundred pieces of silver. TRUE or FALSE
5. Delilah told the Philistines that she would not do this for them because she loved Samson. TRUE or FALSE

ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

1. When Samson told Delilah to tie him up with seven fresh bowstrings, and she did it, was he able to escape? What happened? Did he break free?
2. What was the second thing Samson told Delilah would make him weak? Was it to use NEW ropes, or OLD ropes to tie him up? Did it work?
3. What was the third thing Samson told Delilah would make him weak? Was it to weave his hair into a cloth and nail it to a wall? Did that work?
4. Did Samson finally tell Delilah the truth about his strength? What was it?
5. When Delilah cut Samson's seven braids of hair, was he weak? Did the Philistines capture him?
6. What did the Philistines do to Samson?

Lesson 65



Delilah cuts Samson's braids
Judges 16:19

Lesson 65 Activity/Craft

Pass It Down

This is more of a demonstration than a game. Have a time trial to see how fast your class can “pass it down.” Have them all stand in a row, shoulder to shoulder. Place a container at each end of the row, one should be full of small toys or other objects (perhaps, blocks), the other empty. When you say “go,” the child on the end with the container filled with toys or other items should pick up one item at a time and pass it down to the next person and so on until all the items make it through the line and into the empty container on the other side. Time how long it takes for the children to do this. Allow them to do it a few times. They will probably get faster each time. Afterward ask what happens when someone is not watching or paying attention. This is really just a fun game, but how can these things be like not being faithful to God? God has a path of obedience for each of us to follow, and it can affect other people when we do not do our part. We need to pay attention to God’s plan for our life and not make a mistake like Samson.

PRAYER Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to be faithful to the Lord in all things. Pray that the Lord will help us all to take seriously His call upon our lives and the gifts that He has given us. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.