

SAMSON IS BORN

Judges 13

MEMORY VERSE

JUDGES 13:24

“So the woman bore a son and called his name Samson; and the child grew, and the LORD blessed him.”

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

A large dark-colored cloth and a small doll.

As many 3”x 5” cards as the number of children in your class, stickers, rubber stamps or markers.

ATTENTION GRABBER!

“Walking” Freeze Tag

Play a game of Freeze Tag. Explain to the children that they will have to walk and not run. Have one person be the “freezer” and another the “un-freezer.” The “freezer” will go around the class freezing children. The children must remain frozen after being tagged. But the “un-freezer” will also be going around the room “un-freezing” the children.

Explain to the children that the “freezer” is like our enemy who tries to cause problems in our lives. The un-freezer represents the Lord who “delivers” us.

LESSON TIME!

God demonstrates in the Bible over and over His desire to deliver His children. If His children will forsake their own ways and turn to Him, He will deliver them. Today, we will see God's plan of deliverance unfold once more.

JUDGES 13:1

Again the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD delivered them into the hand of the Philistines for forty years.

The children of Israel chose to do evil instead of walking in the ways of the Lord. God allowed the Israelites to be delivered to the Philistines because of their wickedness. Had they walked in the ways of the Lord, God would have enabled them to drive the Philistines out of the land through His mighty power; but now, as a consequence of their unbelief and disobedience, they have become slaves to the Philistines for 40 years.

The Bible says the pleasure of sin lasts only for a season (Hebrews 11:25). Practicing sin will ultimately bring us into bondage (slavery).

Although the Israelites were disobedient, God loved them and made a way of deliverance for them. Through God comes salvation and deliverance for His children.

Even if we have turned away from God, He still loves us. In fact Romans 5:8 says that while we were still in our sin and rebellion, God showed His love towards us through His Son dying on the cross for us. **God sent a deliverer!** God in His love came searching for us and provided a wonderful salvation that we might have a relationship with Him.

JUDGES 13:2-5

Now there was a certain man from Zorah, of the family of the Danites, whose name was Manoah; and his wife was barren and had no children.

And the Angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, "Indeed now, you are barren and have borne no children, but you shall conceive and bear a son.

"Now therefore, please be careful not to drink wine or similar drink, and not to eat anything unclean.

"For behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. And no razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb; and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines."

God chose to bring deliverance to His people through the birth of a man named Samson, and God chose obscure Danites to be the parents of the future deliverer. Samson would be consecrated to God, separated unto Him for His purposes.

God chose two faithful Danites to be the parents of Samson. In the Bible, we will often find that God chooses ordinary people who love Him and are willing to obey Him to do great things. Samson's parents probably never dreamed that their son would be used so greatly in the nation of Israel. Maybe God wants to use some of us for great things.

Unfortunately, we will see in another lesson that Samson would not remain obedient unto God; and yet, through him, the deliverance of God's people would begin.

JUDGES 13:8

Then Manoah prayed to the LORD, and said, "O my Lord, please let the Man of God whom You sent come to us again and teach us what we shall do for the child who will be born."

Manoah prayed for God's guidance. How wise he was to seek counsel from the Lord! In James 1:5 we read, "if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

JUDGES 13:9-14

And God listened to the voice of Manoah, and the Angel of God came to the woman again as she was sitting in the field; but Manoah her husband was not with her.

Then the woman ran in haste and told her husband, and said to him, "Look, the Man who came to me the other day has just now appeared to me!"

So Manoah arose and followed his wife. When he came to the Man, he said to Him, "Are You the Man who spoke to this woman?" And He said, "I am."

Manoah said, "Now let Your words come to pass! What will be the boy's rule of life, and his work?"

So the Angel of the LORD said to Manoah, "Of all that I said to the woman let her be careful.

"She may not eat anything that comes from the vine, nor may she drink wine or similar drink, nor eat anything unclean. All that I commanded her let her observe."

God listened to Manoah and granted him his request. God hears our prayers and honors the cries of a pure and humble heart.

House On Fire

Let the kids act out a daring rescue. Make a house by placing a dark cloth over a table. Hide a doll inside the house. Have a child volunteer to be the “fireman.” Blindfold them to get ready to make the rescue.

With the class making siren, bell, and cries of help noises, let the blindfolded “fireman” go inside the house and rescue the baby.

Explain to the children that when we are in danger, our Heavenly Father will always come to our rescue. “If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!” (Matthew 7:11). **God sent a deliverer!**

JUDGES 13:15-23

Then Manoah said to the Angel of the LORD, "Please let us detain You, and we will prepare a young goat for You."

And the Angel of the LORD said to Manoah, “Though you detain Me, I will not eat your food. But if you offer a burnt offering, you must offer it to the LORD.” (For Manoah did not know He was the Angel of the LORD.)

Then Manoah said to the Angel of the LORD, “What is Your name, that when Your words come to pass we may honor You?”

And the Angel of the LORD said to him, “Why do you ask My name, seeing it is wonderful?”

So Manoah took the young goat with the grain offering, and offered it upon the rock to the LORD. And He did a wondrous thing while Manoah and his wife looked on—

It happened as the flame went up toward heaven from the altar—the Angel of the LORD ascended in the flame of the altar! When Manoah and his wife saw this, they fell on their faces to the ground.

When the Angel of the LORD appeared no more to Manoah and his wife, then Manoah knew that He was the Angel of the LORD.

And Manoah said to his wife, “We shall surely die, because we have seen God!”

But his wife said to him, “If the LORD had desired to kill us, He would not have accepted a burnt offering and a grain offering from our hands, nor would He have shown us all these things, nor would He have told us such things as these at this time.”

God did a miraculous thing before Manoah and his wife. They were both awe-stricken to find that the Angel of the Lord Himself had come to them. While Manoah feared, his wife reasoned truth with him. She reminded Manoah that God’s favor was upon them, and He had great plans for their lives.

Remember, God is on our side and desires to bless His children. God has forgiven us for our sins and delivered us from His judgment. Why should we fear harm from God? Through God comes salvation and deliverance for His children.

JUDGES 13:24, 25

So the woman bore a son and called his name Samson; and the child grew, and the LORD blessed him.

And the Spirit of the LORD began to move upon him at Mahaneh Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.

God was faithful to His Word and chose Samson to begin to deliver the Israelites from the Philistines. Later, God would provide an even greater deliverer for those who seek Him. Through belief in Jesus Christ, we can be delivered from our enemies: self, sin, and death. Not only are we delivered from those things which seek to destroy us, we are brought into new life through Jesus Christ and are given the promise of eternal life with Him. How great is the love of God that He would desire to deliver us! **God sent a deliverer!**

Mailman Game

What does it mean to deliver? Our closest example is the modern day mailman. He takes our letters to the place we want them to go. When God delivers His people He takes them to the place where He wants them to go.

Let your class deliver “letters” that you have “pre-addressed” on 3x5” cards. You can pre-address the letters to your regular attendees in your class, but make sure to leave some extras for visitors (Put their names on the cards when they arrive; do not give them a blank card). Let them decorate their letters with stickers and or rubber stamps before delivery.

Shuffle the cards and hand out one to each child. Make sure that each child gets a different card than his own. This will help the children to learn each others names. Older kids may write a short note to someone in the class and each person send and receive a note through the “real” mail.

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving for His faithfulness in providing a deliverer for us, Jesus. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.