

MAY 22

GOD USED SAMPSON (Judges 13-16)

RECAP

Christ Connection

Samson died because of his sin, but God used Samson's death to help His people. Samson reminds us of Jesus. Jesus never sinned, but He died for our sin. Jesus died and rose again to rescue God's people from sin and give them life with God forever.

Big Picture Question

What is the punishment for sin? The punishment for sin is separation from God.

Key Passage:

"God gives life forever."

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

THE GOSPEL PROJECT @HOME

FAMILY WORSHIP

Consider doing this during a designated time each week or before/after a meal together.

Read all or parts of Judges 13-16 from the Bible, talk about the scripture, pray and do the fun activity or family serve project this week.

Have you ever been in the kitchen when your mom is icing a cake that smells and looks delicious? You'd give anything just for a bite, and then it happens—she lets you lick the icing off the utensils! As good as licking the icing is, it's still nothing like getting to enjoy the whole cake. The icing is just a taste of something that will be better later.

In the story of Samson, we can clearly see details that remind us of Jesus' story: Samson's birth was announced by an angel, he was betrayed with a kiss for pieces of silver, he was arrested and mocked, and his death freed people from their captivity. But in the end, Samson wasn't perfect; therefore, his death didn't give the people complete salvation. Only Jesus could do that!

The freedom the people found in Samson's death was just a taste of the greater freedom that comes through Jesus. Through His death, we can have complete forgiveness and salvation. There is no sweeter name than the name of Jesus.

Samson's sin led to his own death, but God used his death to save the Israelites from their enemies. Samson's story reminds us of Jesus. Jesus never sinned, but God sent Him to die on the cross and rise again to rescue people from sin and give them eternal life.

Pray: God, thank You for giving us glimpses of Your plan through stories like Samson's. Every story points us to the greatest story of how You sent Jesus to save everyone who believes in Him!

FAMILY PRAYER

Mornings

Ask God to keep your mind and heart focused on Jesus as the greatest treasure. Whenever you want food, water, or entertainment today, ask God to use that hunger as a reminder that true satisfaction is found only in Jesus. What makes Jesus the greatest hero, greatest friend, and greatest treasure?

Evenings

Thank God for the peace that comes through knowing Him and for the greatest peace which comes through trusting in Jesus. Ask God to grow your faith in Jesus. How has Jesus brought ultimate peace for those who believe in Him? Have you trusted in Him for that peace?

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

For Fun

Work as a family to make a cake. Let kids choose the icing and decorations that will go on the cake. As you slice and enjoy the cake, talk about how each story we've been learning shows us God's love as He saves people from their enemies, but—like slices of a cake—those stories are meant to point us to the bigger story of God's great love and His ultimate act of salvation through the work of Jesus.

To Serve

Volunteer to wash toys, launder blankets or burp clothes, or clean furniture for your church's kids ministry. When finished, thank kids for helping so ministry can happen on Sundays. Read 1 John 1:9 and discuss how Jesus' work can cleanse us from all unrighteousness.