

## Unit 9 • Session 4 Samson

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Judges 13–16

**STORY POINT:** God gave Samson strength to defeat the Philistines.

**KEY PASSAGE:** 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What is repentance? Repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus.

**ACTIVITY:** Feats of strength

Challenge the kids to do exercises to show their strength.

Suggested exercises: •push-ups, 15 •sit-ups, 30 •planks, hold for 30 seconds •squats, 40

**SAY** • Wow! All those exercises make my muscles sore! But doing push-ups, squats, and sit-ups is a great way to increase your strength. Today we will learn about a man who had incredible strength from God. Sadly, we'll learn that he did not always use it in a wise way.

**BIBLE STORY DISCUSSION:** Distribute a Bible to each kid. Help them find Judges 13–16. Remind them that Judges is part of the History division. Remind kids that Bible divisions are used to help us organize the books of the Bible.

1. What special instructions did God have for Samson's hair? *(An angel of the Lord told Samson's parents not to cut his hair; Judg. 13:4)*
2. What did the Philistines do to capture Samson? *(They paid Delilah to find out his secret, cut his hair, and attacked him; Judg. 16:5-20)*
3. How did Samson deliver God's people? *(He prayed to God for strength and then pushed over the pillars holding up the roof of a temple, crushing the Philistine leaders and himself; Judg. 16:28-30)*
4. What was Samson's real source of strength? *Lead the kids to see that, although Samson said cutting his hair would take away his strength, his hair was just a picture of his obedience to God. God was his source of strength.*
5. Who else gave His life to rescue many people? *Help the kids make the connection to Jesus, who gave up His life on the cross to save people from sin. Make a point to remind the kids that Jesus was without sin, making His sacrifice even greater. Samson saved the Israelites from the Philistines, but Jesus saved all God's people from sin and death forever.*
6. How can we have strength from God? *Guide kids to see that our source of strength is also God. Guide the discussion away from physical strength and to the ideas of strong faith and determination to obey God. Remind them that we grow our spiritual strength by trusting God, praying to Him, reading His Word, and spending time with other believers.*

**SAY** • **God gave Samson strength to defeat the Philistines.** When we trust Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit. He gives us spiritual strength.

**QUESTIONS FROM KIDS VIDEO:** Prompt kids to think about why God wants people to serve Him. Guide them to discuss why living for God is better than living selfishly.