



JOURNAL PAGE

1. What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
2. What does this story teach me about myself?
3. Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
4. Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
5. How does this story help me to live on mission better?



Unit 9 • Session 2

GOD USED SAMSON

Judges 13-16

WHAT IS THE FAIR PAYMENT FOR SIN? THE FAIR PAYMENT FOR SIN IS DEATH.

The Israelites were stuck in a pattern of ignoring God, being attacked by enemies, and then calling out to God to rescue them. God let their enemies, the Philistines, rule over them.

One day, the angel of the LORD spoke to a man and his wife. They would have a son, and their son would save God's people from the Philistines. God had special instructions for their son: He should never cut his hair.

The couple named him Samson. God made Samson strong. Samson decided he wanted to marry a Philistine woman. Samson and his parents went to meet her. Along the way, a lion jumped out and Samson killed the lion. Later, bees made honey in the lion's body.

Samson told a riddle to a group of Philistines at the wedding. The Philistines could not figure it out. They asked Samson's bride for help. She told the men the answer. Samson was angry, and he left without his wife. Samson ran away to another city, where he fell in love with a woman named Delilah. The Philistines gave Delilah money to help them find out.

Samson told Delilah, "If you cut my hair, I will be weak." A Philistine came and cut his hair. The Philistines grabbed him and took him away in chains.

The Philistines made Samson stand between two pillars in their temple. God strengthened Samson. Samson pushed on the pillars and collapsed the temple. Samson and everyone in the temple died.

Christ Connection: 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.

God Used Samson

Judges 13-16

Family Discussion Starters:

- Samson did many things that were against God's law; why do you think God used him to rescue Israel?
- Why did cutting Samson's hair cause him to lose his strength?

Family Activity:

Hold a riddle competition with your kids. Search online to find riddles appropriate for your kids' ages, and see how many they can answer correctly without any hints. Discuss the Bible story and remind them that Jesus was a much better rescuer than Samson.

Riddle Time | Read the riddles and see how many you can solve.

1. It belongs to you,
but your friends
use it more.

2. How many months of
the year have 28 days?

3. What has a face
and hands but cannot
smile or wave?

4. What gets wetter
as it dries?

5. Three men were in a
boat. It capsized, but
only two of the men got
their hair wet. Why?

6. A boy throws a ball
as hard as he can. It
comes back to him
every time, even though
no one and nothing
touches it. Why?

7. What is so delicate
that it breaks when
you speak?

8. Which word in the
dictionary is spelled
incorrectly?

9. What goes up but
never comes down?

10. If a brother, sister,
and their dog weren't
under an umbrella, why
didn't they get wet?

(Answers: 1. your name; 2. all of them; 3. a clock; 4. a towel; 5. one was bald;
6. He throws it straight up; 7. silence; 8. incorrectly; 9. your age; 10. It wasn't raining)

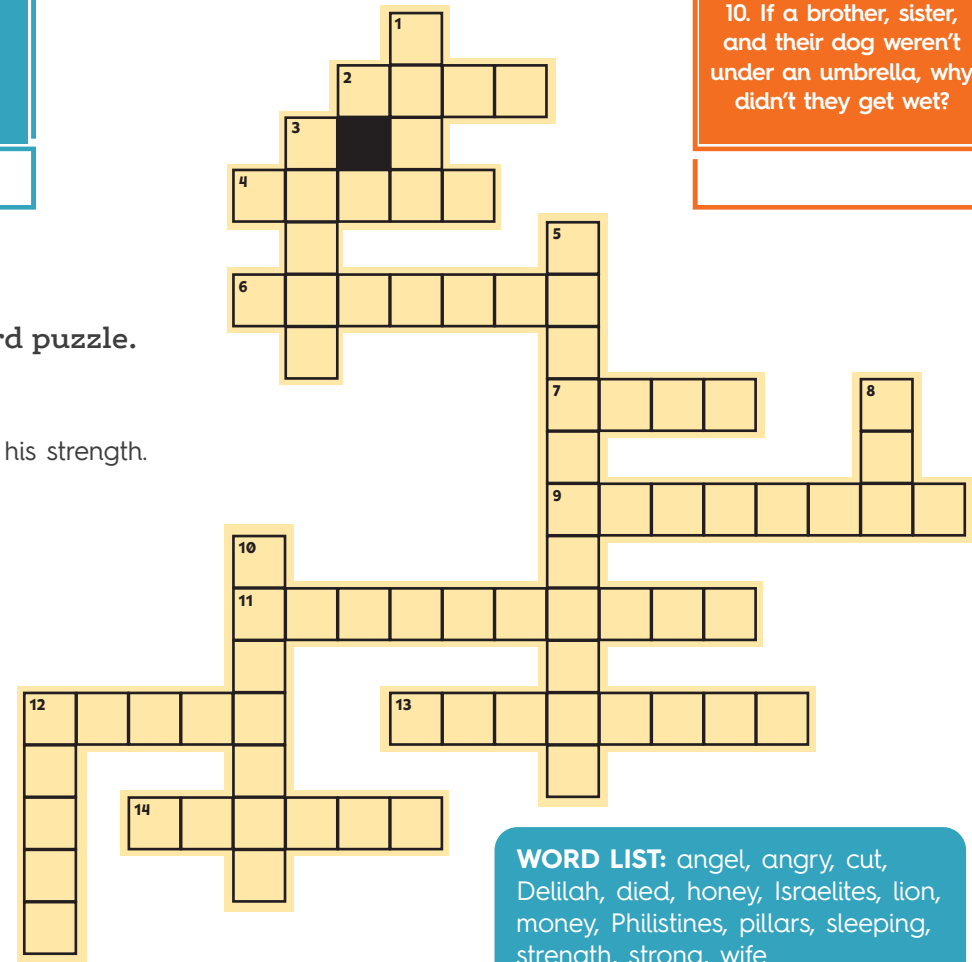
Samson Review | Use the clues to solve the crossword puzzle.

ACROSS

2. Samson and everyone in the temple ____.
4. The Philistines gave Samson's wife ____ to tell them the secret to his strength.
6. Samson fell in love with a woman named ____.
7. Samson killed a ____ that he encountered on a journey
9. Samson prayed that God would give him ____ one more time
11. Samson saved the ____ from their enemy.
12. An ____ of the Lord spoke to Samson's parents.
13. The Philistines cut Samson's hair when he was ____
14. God made Samson very ____.

DOWN

1. Samson's ____ told the Philistines the answer to the riddle.
3. Samson told a riddle about a lion and ____
5. God let the ____ rule over the Israelites.
8. God told Samson's parents he should never ____ his hair.
10. Samson was chained between two ____ in a temple
12. Samson was ____ that the riddle was spoiled.



WORD LIST: angel, angry, cut, Delilah, died, honey, Israelites, lion, money, Philistines, pillars, sleeping, strength, strong, wife