



Big Idea:

My sin can't stop God's plan, but obeying God is good for me.

Bible Verse:

Walk in all the ways I command you, that it may go well with you
Jeremiah 7:23

Let's Talk:

1. What are some ways to make your body really, REALLY strong?
2. What are some ways that Samson disobeyed God?
3. What are some ways that you can obey your parents? Your teachers?



The Strongest Man

Read the Bible: Judges 13-16

Once again, the Israelites forgot to obey God's instructions. And once again, God had a plan to get them out of all their trouble. One day God sent an angel to an Israelite woman. The angel told her she was going to have a baby boy and she needed to follow special rules while she waited for the baby. Do **NOT** eat grapes! Do **NOT** drink wine! Do **NOT** touch anything dead! And when the baby is born do **NOT** cut his hair! This baby would belong especially to God, so he must follow the same rules.

When the baby was born, his parents named him Samson, and he grew up to be really, really, **REALLY** strong! And his hair grew really, **REALLY** long!

Once, he killed a lion with his bare hands! But later on, he passed by that dead lion and saw that bees had made a nest full of honey inside the lion's body....and he touched the dead lion and scooped some honey out. Oops!! Samson had disobeyed God's rules!

Now Samson was headed for trouble. He fell in love with a woman who was one of the Philistines – an enemy of Israel. Her name was Delilah.

Read Judges 16:5 to hear what the enemy rulers asked Delilah to do.

They wanted to find out what made Samson so strong so that they could capture him and take him as their prisoner. Delilah asked and asked, but every time, Samson made up a silly answer. She pouted and whined until finally Samson gave in. He told her, "I've been dedicated to God since I was born. That's why I don't cut my hair. If my hair were cut off, I'd be the same as any other man." So, while Samson slept, Delilah cut his hair! The enemy soldiers came and grabbed him, made him blind and took him to prison!

One night, the Philistine leaders threw a big party to honor their false god and they decided to bring Samson in so they could make fun of him.

Samson asked the guard to place his hands on the pillars of the temple as the people were partying. He prayed to God, "Let me be strong once more so that I can knock down the temple and destroy the Philistine enemies." He pushed with all his might and the temple came crashing down on everyone – even Samson! Samson chose not to obey God several times. But Samson's disobedience could not stop God's plan to help the Israelites!