



HOW THE GOOD GO BAD

Lessons Learned From Samson

- Spiritual failure is seldom an _____ it's usually an _____
- There will always be the temptation to rely on our _____ not the _____
- The beginning of _____ is an awareness of our _____

Memory Verse

“From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.”
Luke 12:48

MY NEXT STEP IS TO . . .

- Memorize Luke 12:48
- Commit to being here (as much as possible) for the next three messages in the Samson series
- Get the most from this series by attending a Life group this week
- Ask God to help me to resist the temptation to rely on my gifts instead of the giver



Samson was an I _____ S _____ man
with a D _____ W _____ will

His great potential: S _____ by God,
S _____ by God and S _____ by God

His fatal flaw: Samson was a M _____ of F _____
but he wasn't a F _____ M _____

Attitudes That Can Cause The Good To Go Bad

- L _____: I W _____ it
“Samson went down to Timnah and saw there a young Philistine woman. When he returned, he said to his father and mother, “I have seen a Philistine woman in Timnah; now get her for me as my wife.” Judges 14:1-2
- E _____: I D _____ it
“Some time later, when he went back to marry her, he turned aside to look at the lion's carcass, and in it he saw a swarm of bees and some honey. He scooped out the honey with his hands and ate as he went along.” Judges 14:8-9
- P _____: I C _____ H _____ it
“Now his father went down to see the woman. And there Samson held a feast, as was customary for young men.” Judges 14:10

Attitudes That Can Keep The Good From Going Bad

- I want _____
- I deserve _____
- I can't _____ without God

Discussion Questions - Week #2

LIFEGROUPS

QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the sermon this weekend, "How the Good Go Bad", summarize the main point in a sentence or two.

Was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Is there any practical step you plan on taking this week in response to the message?

GETTING STARTED

- As Pastor Rick shared in the message, the story of Samson is the story of a man of incredible potential and a fatal flaw. Who in our day had great potential, only to come crashing down?
- Samson had a problem with being impulsive. What's one of the biggest impulse purchases or decisions you've ever made? What was the result of your actions?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Samson struggled with the thought that he could handle what life threw at him on his own. Read John 15:1-8. What do you think Jesus means in saying, "apart from me you can do nothing?"

Considering Jesus' words of caution, why do you think we are so often prone to rely on our strength rather than God's?

What would it look like for you to abide in Christ in a meaningful and sustainable way?

What indicators in your life show that you are or are not 'remaining' in Christ?

Samson received the gift of physical strength to do what God wanted Him to do. Based on how God has gifted you, what fruit does He expect you to bear in your life?

2. Read 2 Corinthians 12:5-10. What stands out to you?

In this passage, Paul tells us that he had a weakness that he asked God to remove, yet God chose to allow it to remain so He could reveal His great strength. What weakness in your life could God use (if you let Him) as an opportunity to show His strength?

How does Paul's boasting in his weakness compare or contrast with the successful leaders of our day?

In what ways are you allowing God to use both your strengths and weaknesses to benefit and expand His kingdom?

Are there any practical applications from this passage God is inviting you into?

TAKING IT HOME

- How can the group be praying for you to allow God to use your strengths and weaknesses to bring Him glory and expand His kingdom?

FOR PRACTICE

As Pastor Rick shared, "Samson was an incredibly strong man with a dangerously weak will." The spiritual discipline of fasting is one way Christians have cultivated the fruit of the Spirit: self-control through the centuries. Richard Foster suggests in Celebration of Discipline, "Our human cravings and desires are like rivers that tend to overflow their banks; fasting helps keep them in their proper channels." As a practice this week, consider a short fast. Try skipping one meal or multiple as an exercise of focus and dependence on God.

PRAYER REQUESTS