

SESSION SNAPSHOT

A SUREFIRE WAY TO WRECK YOUR LIFE

NARRATIVE PASSAGE:

Judges 16:21-31

GOSPEL FOCUS:

Hebrews 11:33-34

TAKEAWAYS:

- God will accomplish His plans in spite of our sin
- We should depend on others to keep us accountable

LAST WEEK'S READING:

- Judges 6-7
- Judges 13-14
- Judges 15-16
- Ruth 1-2
- Ruth 3-4

STUDY THE WORD

When you were growing up, did you feel like your parents put any expectations on you? How did that affect you?

Do you think that being born for a specific purpose (like how Samson was born to save Israel from the Philistines) would be easy or hard to deal with?

How do you think Samson's actions here demonstrated disrespect toward his vow? Toward his parents?

Why do you think that respect, especially for your parents, is so important to God? What does this kind of respect look like?

Why is it important to pay attention to the kind of company you keep?

When is a time you've been influenced by those around you--either for better or for worse?

How has the Lord used people around you to bring you closer to Him?

Samson was given amazing tools to accomplish great things for God's glory, regardless of whether he did that or not. What tools have you been given, and how can use them for God's glory?

APPLY THE WORD

Even though Samson decided to discard it, God eventually did accomplish what He said He would through Samson--but not before Samson suffered heavily and, eventually, died. Fortunately for us, it is never too late to evaluate what path we are on, where we are headed, and what we can do to use what we have for God's glory.

Take a look at your friends. What are they like? Are they pursuing God or are they pursuing something else?

Take a look at your actions. If you keep doing what you're doing, where do you think you'll end up?

Take a look at the gifts God has given you. How are you using them to bring glory to God?

PREPARE FOR NEXT WEEK

Next Week's Reading:

- 1 Samuel 1-2
- 1 Samuel 3: 8
- 1 Samuel 9-10
- 1 Samuel 13-14
- 1 Samuel 15-16