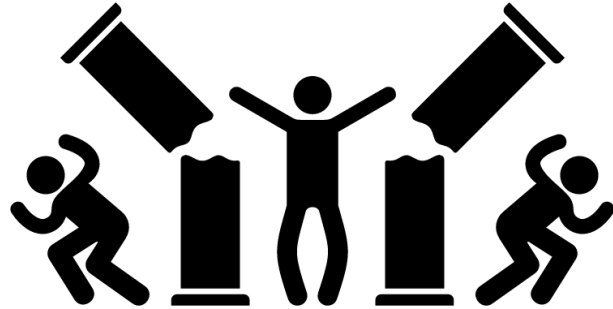


Samson

Directions: Read the biography and answer the questions. (Read more about the life of Samson in Judges 13-16.)

Samson's mother did not think she would be able to have children, but then an angel of the Lord appeared to her and told her that she would have a son and he would be dedicated to God as a Nazarite. Nazarites vowed not to cut their hair or drink wine. God granted Samson amazing physical strength because of these vows. Samson had



one weakness: he was very attracted to Philistine women. The Philistines worshipped other gods. They were the Israelite's enemies and ruled over them at the time. His first attempted to marry a Philistine woman failed because she betrayed him before they were married. He then fell in love with Delilah. The Philistines convinced her to trick Samson into telling her the source of his great strength. After a few tries she got him to tell her that his long hair was the source of his strength. While he slept, Delilah cut off his hair leaving him helpless to an attack from the Philistines. They tied Samson's arms to two great pillars in their temple so they could laugh at him. Samson called out to the Lord to restore his strength. The Lord answered and Samson broke down the temple killing the Philistines and sacrificing himself as well.

1. Samson had great physical strength, but what was his greatest weakness?

2. What are your strengths and weaknesses?

3. How can you thank God for your strengths and helping you in times of weakness?
