



# Everyday FAITH Family Page

## Old Testament 3

### Law/Gospel

Sin weakens me, making me a target for the devil's temptations, bringing me guilt and destruction. **God loves me, in spite of my sin and weakness, and puts on me Christ's strength and victory over sin, death, and the devil.**

### Bible Words

The LORD is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped.  
Psalm 28:7

### Just Joking

*Who was the best entertainer in the Bible?*

Samson, because he brought the house down.

### Dig Deeper

Curious about Samson? Read his birth-to-death account in **Judges 13–16**.

## Samson

### Judges 16

Scripture shows God's judge Samson with all his warts. Easily angered, occasionally disrespectful, and often impetuous, Samson the womanizer seems ill-fitted to lead God's people. But God specializes in accomplishing His work through sinners, and Samson qualified. (So do we.) The Spirit of the Lord was with Samson; he trusted the Lord.

God blessed Samson with physical strength and fearlessness. He defeated many enemies and killed an attacking lion with his own hands. He pulled up a city gate by its posts and carried it to the top of a hill. Samson's enemies could not bind or defeat him until they enticed his girlfriend Delilah to betray him for the equivalent of fifteen years of income.

Four times, Samson lied to Delilah about the source of his strength, including the last time when he said it resulted from his uncut hair. Three times, Delilah did the very thing Samson said would weaken him. Knowing this, Samson had to expect she would cut his hair.

Samson's strength came from the Lord. But by cutting his hair, Samson broke the last part of his Nazirite vow to God. With this action, the Lord left Samson. The Philistines easily captured and imprisoned him.

Brought to the temple of the idol Dagon later to entertain, Samson prayed and asked God to return his strength. Grasping the middle pillars, he pulled down the temple roof and died with his enemies.

By giving up his own life to kill the dreaded foe, Samson points to Christ, who redeemed His people by giving up His own life to free us from our enemies of sin, death, and the devil.

### The Nazirite Vow

In a voluntary three-part Nazirite vow, men or women publicly devoted themselves entirely to God and His work for a specific time period. They (1) abstained from grape and alcohol products; (2) did not cut their hair; and (3) avoided contact with dead bodies.

Some people, like Samson, were Nazirites from birth (Judges 16:17).