



Sermon Discussion Guide

Sampson: God doesn't give up - Tim Knipp

11/7/2021

Leader Preparation

1. Take some time to look over these questions ahead of time. Choose the ones that you want to make sure you cover with your group. We have highlighted what we think are **key ideas/questions by bolding them.**
2. Pray for your group and your time together as you prepare. This is so helpful!
3. When meeting online you as the leader will need to be more directive than in person. Don't be afraid to invite everyone to answer a question, invite them to share by name, and thank them when they finish. The online format requires a little more intentional orchestrating than an in-person group.
4. Try to start the gathering by getting everyone talking at least once to begin. The Hook section is great for this. When in doubt, have people share stories about their past. (How the week was, favorite memories about the topic for the day, etc). This is a great way to help your group continue to get to know one another.
5. Next, look at the Scripture and what it means. We believe Jesus is discipling people through this Word. Get people into the Scriptures and the Scriptures into people!
6. Finally, end with what God is saying to people and how God is inviting them to respond. These aren't just ideas to know but realities to live in!



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Hook - Getting to know one another

- How is everyone doing this week? This could also be an icebreaker question related to the topic for discussion.
- Samson Resource Bible Project: Start at 4:34 and at 5:39
 - * Disclaimer: There is a lot of violence in this story. It might be helpful to warn your group and help prepare them to navigate this. Start your time by watching this clip from the Bible project video on Judges.
- Start at 4:34 and at 5:39
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kOYy8iCfIJ4>

Book - Scripture

- **Read Judges 13-16 (A long passage but tells the whole story of Samson)**
- In chapter 13, what are the instructions given to Samson parents about how he should live?
 - Does Samson follow them?
- How is the story of Samson similar to the stories of other Judges?
 - How is it different? (They didn't call to the Lord.)
- Throughout this story, what is Samson's overarching motivation?
 - What is the philistines motivation? (Revenge/power)

Look - Connections to our world today

- Why do you think the Israelites didn't call out to God when they were suffering this time?
- Why do you think God keeps appointing new judges, even though they often stray away from God's plan?
- Why do you think God keeps giving Samson strength, even when he is motivated by his own desire for revenge?
- In what ways do Samon's actions reflect the general actions of the Israelites?



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Took - Personal Application

- Take a minute to think about your own motivations. Are there motivations that influence you more than God?
- Have there been times in your life when you felt like you couldn't cry out to God? How/Did God meet you in those moments? (Past or present)
- On Sunday, Tim talked about God's never ending faithfulness and his constant call to return to him. In what ways do you need to hear and respond to God's call to you today?

Time of Prayer