

23 *The Philistine rulers held a great festival, offering sacrifices and praising their god, Dagon. They said, “Our god has given us victory over our enemy Samson!”*

24 *When the people saw him, they praised their god, saying, “Our god has delivered our enemy to us! The one who killed so many of us is now in our power!”*

25 *Half drunk by now, the people demanded, “Bring out Samson so he can amuse us!” So he was brought from the prison to amuse them, and they had him stand between the pillars supporting the roof.*

26 *Samson said to the young servant who was leading him by the hand, “Place my hands against the pillars that hold up the temple. I want to rest against them.”* **27** *Now the temple was completely filled with people. All the Philistine rulers were there, and there were about 3,000 men and women on the roof who were watching as Samson amused them.*

28 *Then Samson prayed to the LORD, “Sovereign LORD, remember me again. O God, please strengthen me just one more time. With one blow let me pay back the Philistines for the loss of my two eyes.”* **29** *Then Samson put his hands on the two center pillars that held up the temple. Pushing against them with both hands, **30** he prayed, “Let me die with the Philistines.” And the temple crashed down on the Philistine rulers and all the people. So he killed more people when he died than he had during his entire lifetime.*

—Judges 16:23-30

Discussion/Journal Questions

“A bold faith is one that believes that with God anything is possible and lives with the expectation that God will show up.” Do you believe this? Why or why not?

What does it look like to live with the expectation that God will show up?

How have you personally experienced the fear of failure or the pain of regret?

How many 2nd chances has God given you in your life? How many 2nd chances do we extend to other people?

When you realize your failures do you tend towards remorse or repentance?

“If you don’t do anything different, you won’t be anything different.” What steps of repentance and transformation do you need to take this week?

How can your group pray for you this week? How can you encourage and pray for them?

Who are you praying for to accept Jesus, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?

Who are you currently discipling, and what specifically did you do this week to help them know, love, and follow Jesus?

Who are you considering for future discipleship relationships, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?