

HEROES – 6
“Samson”
March 26, 2023

Hebrews 12:1 *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.* (NIV)

**When you think you see everything clearly all on your own...
You don't have to lose your eyes to be blind.**

WE CAN BE...

1. Blind to God's purpose for our life

Judges 13:5 *“You will become pregnant and have a son whose head is never to be touched by a razor because the boy is to be a Nazirite, dedicated to God from the womb. He will take the lead in delivering Israel from the hands of the Philistines.”* (NIV)

Proverbs 29:18 *Where there is no revelation, people cast off restraint.* (NIV)

2. Blind to the power of relationships

Judges 14:2-3 *When he returned, he said to his father and mother, “I have seen a Philistine woman in Timnah; now get her for me as my wife.”* 3 *His father and mother replied, “Isn't there an acceptable woman among your relatives or among all our people? Must you go to the uncircumcised Philistines to get a wife?”* But Samson said to his father, *“Get her for me. She's the right one for me.”* (NIV)

1 Corinthians 15:33 *Do not be misled: “Bad company corrupts good character.”* (NIV)

Ephesians 6:2-3 *“Honor your father and mother”—which is the first commandment with a promise—3 “so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.”* (NIV)

3. Blind to the nature of God

Judges 16:19-21 *After putting him to sleep on her lap, she called for someone to shave off the seven braids of his hair, and so began to subdue him. And his strength left him. 20 Then she called, “Samson, the*

Philistines are upon you!” He awoke from his sleep and thought, *“I'll go out as before and shake myself free.”* But he did not know that the LORD had left him. 21 *Then the Philistines seized him, gouged out his eyes and took him down to Gaza. Binding him with bronze shackles, they set him to grinding grain in the prison.* (NIV)

Romans 6:1-2 *What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? 2 By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?* (NIV)

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

- **Protect the presence of God.**

1 Thessalonians 5:19 *Do not quench the Spirit.* (NIV)

Ephesians 4:30 *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.* (NIV)

- **Choose your relationships carefully.**

Proverbs 13:20 *Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.* (NIV)

Hebrews 10:25 *Not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.* (NIV)

- **Failure is never final.**

Judges 16:28 *Then Samson prayed to the LORD, “Sovereign LORD, remember me. Please, God, strengthen me just once more...”* (NIV)

1 Timothy 1:15-16 *Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. 16 But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life.* (NIV)