

Right in the Eye

Part 6—How to Sabotage Your Success

- Samson's synopsis:
 - Catches Philistine fever
 - Plays riddle-mania
 - Revenge of the fiery foxes
 - Jawbone jamboree
 - Red light gate fight at midnight
 - The Delilah downfall
 - Bringing the house down!

Life Lessons From A Self-Destructive Leader

1. Great _____ Do Not Guarantee Great Success.

Judges 13:5—⁵“You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and his hair must never be cut. For he will be dedicated to God as a Nazirite from birth. He will begin to rescue Israel from the Philistines.” (NLT)

2. You Don't Have to be Perfect to be Powerful, But You Do Have to be _____.

Judges 13:7b—⁷“ . . . For your son will be dedicated to God as a Nazirite from the moment of his birth until the day of his death.” (NLT)

3. The Only Thing You Have to Know to be a True Leader Is _____!

Judges 14:3—³His father and mother objected. “Isn't there even one woman in our tribe or among all the Israelites you could marry?” they asked. “Why must you go to the pagan

Philistines to find a wife?” But Samson told his father, “Get her for me! She looks good to me.” (NLT)

1Peter 4:10—¹⁰Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. (NIV)

4. You're Never Stronger Than Your Greatest _____.

Judges 14:8-9—⁸Later, when he returned to Timnah for the wedding, he turned off the path to look at the carcass of the lion. And he found that a swarm of bees had made some honey in the carcass. He scooped some of the honey into his hands and ate it along the way. He also gave some to his father and mother, and they ate it. But he didn't tell them he had taken the honey from the carcass of the lion. (NLT)

- The road to ruin:
 - Move off the main path
 - Look longingly
 - Compromise conservatively
 - Justify by inclusion
 - _____

Judges 16:20b—²⁰. . . When he woke up, he thought, “I will do as before and shake myself free.” But he didn't realize the LORD had left him. (NLT)

5. It's _____ to Become Who You Should Have Been.

Judges 16:28a—²⁸Then Samson prayed to the LORD, “Sovereign LORD, remember me again. O God, please strengthen me just one more time . . .” (NLT)

Joel 2:12-14—¹²The LORD said: “It isn’t too late. You can still return to me with all your heart. Start crying and mourning!
¹³. . . turn back to me with broken hearts. I am merciful, kind, and caring. I don’t easily lose my temper, and I don’t like to punish. ¹⁴I am the LORD your God. Perhaps I will change my mind and treat you with mercy. Then you will be blessed . . .” (CEV)

Action Step . . .

- *Rebellion & Rescue: A 22-day reading plan through the Book of Judges* <https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/25508-rebellion-a-study-in-judges>

