

# RIGHT IN THE EYE

## RIGHT IN THE EYE, PART 4: NOBODY'S THAT STUPID

Chances are your greatest regret can be traced back to a decision where your body wanted something that your heart knew was wrong. An appetite was raging. You saw something or someone you wanted—even though he, she, or it wasn't healthy for you. But you gave in to your body anyway. You yielded to the little kings that want to replace the Creator King who calls you to live from the inside out.

What do you do when your body wants what your heart knows is wrong?

**BIG IDEA:** Once Samson had his eyes put out, he was able to see.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Talk about something you badly wanted in childhood or adulthood. Did you get it? If so, did it live up to your high expectations?
2. If your sexual choices played out on TV, which show would they fit into best?
  - 7<sup>th</sup> Heaven
  - Entourage
  - Grey's Anatomy
  - Jersey Shore
  - Modern Family
  - Sex and the City
  - The Bachelor/The Bachelorette
  - The Golden Girls
3. Why do you think our culture glorifies doing what is right in our own eyes when it comes to sexual conduct? What are some of the costs of that kind of view of sex?
4. Chris asked the question, *"What do you do when your body wants something your heart knows is wrong?"* What is that something likely to be?
5. During the message, Chris said, *"There's nothing like sexual sin to derail you."* Respond to that statement. Do you agree? Why or why not?
6. *With your Bible or the Bible App, read Judges 16:4–21.*

*Some time later, he fell in love with a woman in the Valley of Sorek whose name was Delilah. The rulers of the Philistines went to her and said, "See if you can lure him into showing you the secret of his great strength and how we can overpower him so we may tie him up and subdue him. Each one of us will give you eleven hundred shekels of silver." So Delilah said to Samson, "Tell me the secret of your great strength and how you can be tied up and subdued." Samson answered her, "If anyone ties me with seven fresh thongs that have not been dried, I'll become as weak as any other man." Then the rulers of the Philistines brought her seven fresh thongs that had not been dried, and she tied him with them. With men hidden in the room, she called to him, "Samson, the Philistines are upon you!" But he snapped the thongs as easily as a piece of string snaps when it comes close to a flame. So the secret of his strength was not discovered. Then Delilah said to Samson, "You have made a fool of me; you lied to me. Come now, tell me how you can be tied." He said, "If anyone ties me securely with new ropes that have never been used, I'll become as weak as any other man." So Delilah took new ropes and tied him with them. Then, with men hidden in the room, she called to him, "Samson, the Philistines are upon you!" But he snapped the ropes off his arms as if they were threads. Delilah then said to Samson, "Until now, you have been making a fool of me and lying to me. Tell me how you can be tied." He replied, "If you weave the seven braids of my head into the fabric [on the loom] and tighten it with the pin, I'll become as weak as any other man." So while he was sleeping, Delilah took the seven braids of his head, wove them into the fabric and tightened it with the pin. Again she called to him, "Samson, the Philistines are upon you!" He awoke from his sleep and pulled up the pin and the loom, with the fabric. Then she said to him, "How can you say, 'I love you,' when you won't confide in me? This is the third time you have made a fool of me and haven't told me the secret of your great strength." With such nagging she prodded him day after day until he was tired to death. So he told her everything. "No razor has ever been used on my head," he said, "because I have been a Nazirite set apart to God since birth. If my head were shaved, my strength would leave me, and I would become as weak as any other man."*

Judges 16:4-17

# RIGHT IN THE EYE

*When Delilah saw that he had told her everything, she sent word to the rulers of the Philistines, “Come back once more; he has told me everything.” So the rulers of the Philistines returned with the silver in their hands. Having put him to sleep on her lap, she called a man to shave off the seven braids of his hair, and so began to subdue him. And his strength left him. 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. 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 in the prison.*

*Judges 16:18-21*

7. How believable is it to you that Samson would make the same mistake with Delilah again and again? What unhealthy patterns do you see in our culture? What unhealthy patterns do you see in your own relationships?
8. Do you think Samson fully knew the consequences of giving in? Do you think you fully know the consequences of giving in to your sin?
9. Why is it difficult for you to believe that God has a special plan for your life, but that you have to yield to him in order for him to do what he wants *in* and *through* you? If you took that idea to heart, how might it change the choices you make when it comes to expressing your sexuality?
10. When have you let yourself give into the pressures, urges, or cravings for something you know is not God’s will for you? With what results?
11. What is one step you can take to yield your sexual conduct to God and begin to live from the inside out instead of the outside in? How can this group support you as you take that step?

## WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Have you asked God to teach you to honor Him with your body? It’s never too late. Instead of doing what is right in your own eyes, how will you begin to do what you suspect is right in your heart?

Have you yielded your sexual conduct to God? Have you asked him to teach you to honor him with your body? If you do, when you ask the question, “*What do I do when my body wants what my heart knows is wrong?*” you’ll be able to lean into that still small voice—the one that doesn’t just say no, but “*I love you and I have something better for you.*”

## CHANGING YOUR MIND

*Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.*

*1 Corinthians 6:19–20*