

Week Five Family Discussion Questions (July 4-10)

1) Samson's story begins with some noteworthy similarities to the story of Jesus' birth (e.g., an angel tells Samson's mother she will conceive and give birth to a son.) At the same time, the Bible makes clear that Samson, although blessed by God, is <u>not</u> the Promised Messiah (See Judges 13:5b). What are some differences between Samson and Jesus? (Bonus Question: What are some similarities between Jesus and "The Angel of the Lord" in Judges 13?)

2) In Judges 14:3, we see that Samson, like the people of Israel, desires something wrong because it seems, "right in [his] eyes." Sadly, we, too, can easily deceive ourselves to think that bad things are actually good. Read Jeremiah 17:9. What does this verse say about our hearts? Why did Jesus need to come to earth and die on the cross?

3) The story of Samson ends on a sad note, with Samson dying among his enemies. While Samson's life is largely a bad example of how to live for God, what hope does Samson's story provide for sinners like you and me? To ask the question another way, how does Samson, a flawed and imperfect deliverer, point us to Jesus, our perfect, promised Savior?

This Week's Key Verse: Judges 13:5

...The child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb, and he shall *begin* to save Israel from the hand of the Philistines.