



# FUSION

CHURCH OF MADISON

Sermon Guide for Tribes

September 4, 2022

Message Title: Live Sent Like Samson

Scripture: Judges 16:20-30

<sup>20</sup> And she said, "The Philistines *are* upon you, Samson!" So he awoke from his sleep, and said, "I will go out as before, at other times, and shake myself free!" But he did not know that the LORD had departed from him. <sup>21</sup> Then the Philistines took him and <sup>Ⓜ</sup>put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza. They bound him with bronze fetters, and he became a grinder in the prison. <sup>22</sup> However, the hair of his head began to grow again after it had been shaven. <sup>23</sup> Now the lords of the Philistines gathered together to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god, and to rejoice. And they said:

"Our god has delivered into our hands  
Samson our enemy!"

<sup>24</sup> When the people saw him, they praised their god; for they said:

"Our god has delivered into our hands our enemy,  
The destroyer of our land,  
And the one who multiplied our dead."

<sup>25</sup> So it happened, when their hearts were merry, that they said, "Call for Samson, that he may perform for us." So they called for Samson from the prison, and he performed for them. And they stationed him between the pillars. <sup>26</sup> Then Samson said to the lad who held him by the hand, "Let me feel the pillars which support the temple, so that I can lean on them." <sup>27</sup> Now the temple was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines *were* there—about three thousand men and women on the roof watching while Samson performed. <sup>28</sup> Then Samson called to the LORD, saying, "O Lord GOD, remember me, I pray! Strengthen me, I pray, just this once, O God, that I may with one *blow* take vengeance on the Philistines for my two eyes!" <sup>29</sup> And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars which supported the temple, and he braced himself against them, one on his right and the other on his left. <sup>30</sup> Then Samson said, "Let me die with the Philistines!" And he pushed with *all his* might, and the temple fell on the lords and all the people who *were* in it. So the dead that he killed at his death were more than he had killed in his life.

Points of Consideration:

To accomplish much for God, we must demonstrate:

Humility

Repentance

Faith

Discussion Questions:

Consider 1 Peter 5:5-6 and Philippians 2:1-11. Why is humility such an essential mindset for the believer? Have you, like Samson, ever been humbled by God?

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Samson’s prayer to God is similar to that of the thief’s words to Jesus on the cross in Luke 23:40-43. As you think about your testimony, how do you identify with these two individuals? When we meditate on these Scriptures, along with that of the tax collector in Luke 18:9-14, how much more confident are you in the promise of God’s grace in Hebrews 4:14-16?

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Contrast Samson's failure at the hands of the Philistines in Judges 16:20-21 and his heroic final moments in verses 28-30. What was the crucial difference between these two instances, and what does it reveal about the true source of Samson's power and effectiveness? How can we apply Samson's hard-learned lesson to not only our own walk with Christ but also to the idea of living life on mission?

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# Prayer Guide for Tribes

## You Turn Ministries

- PRAISE NOTE: Over a month ago, new believers from the Mitundu area of Malawi came together for a baptismal service...300 people were baptized!
- Soccer league: pray for You Turn's soccer league as it brings hundreds of people in to hear the Gospel from pastoral students who preach to the crowds at halftime.
  - o Thousands have come to Christ and five churches have been planted through the soccer ministry since February!
- Pray for nine pastor training schools, and over 200 students, who are being trained to plant churches over the next two years. A school in Chipata, Zambia hosted their first graduation June 1<sup>st</sup> with a class of 38 students!
- Pray for the over 80 orphans that You Turn currently supports. Join with You Turn as they pray that God would develop these students into strong, Bible-believing adults that would greatly impact their villages!

## Church Plants!

- Hispanic Church Plant
  - o We are currently working with area missionaries in the Stone Mountain Baptist Association to plant a Hispanic church in our facilities here at Fusion!
    - Be in prayer for Pastor Roberto and his family to and for God to open doors amongst the Hispanic community in Morgan County.
    - Pray for wisdom as Fusion discerns its next steps in planting this church.
- Walton County Church Plant
  - o Pastor Matt is collaborating with local pastors who have a heart for church planting to place a church in the Walton County area. Please pray that God would raise up a planter and a core group of church members and that God would open doors in the near future!

## Life Community Church, Weymouth, MA

- A building- currently, LCC Weymouth is meeting in a local community center as a mobile church. Having to borrow a space presents many inconveniences for all that the church would like to do and be. They are already praying that God would provide for them a permanent place to do ministry.
- Recovering community- God is at work in Weymouth! LCC is experiencing radical life change in its members. They are surrounded by a massive community of addicts undergoing rehabilitation and recovery, and many of these individuals are finding healing at the foot of the cross! Pray specifically for Jake, Eric, Lucas, and Derek. These men found Christ in recovery and are leaders in this parish, passionately pursuing intimacy in their walk. Also pray for Kevin, a man who was saved just two weeks ago! He is still in recovery and is surrounded by men battling addiction, and he needs your prayer for strength and resilience.
- “Dots on the Map”: LCC is designed to be a network of churches who continuously plant new churches all over the greater Boston area. The Weymouth parish is the most recent plant, and communities have been identified in Hull, Dorchester, Hingham, Randolph, etc. Pray that God would raise up communities of believers and pastors to shepherd them in these areas!

## Source of Light Ministries

- **Please refer to the document below (copy and paste the link), “Changepoints,” for updates on what God is doing through the ministry of Source of Light!**

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qZwJhusH4ddpQpjP3rdiW2aP-1RuhQ7qq-sTVtdHQ\\_I/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qZwJhusH4ddpQpjP3rdiW2aP-1RuhQ7qq-sTVtdHQ_I/edit?usp=sharing)

## FCA

- As the ministry of FCA continues to grow in our 5-county area, pray for more people willing to Pray, Serve, and Give toward their efforts!
- As school starts back, we need community help to pay for breakfast for FCA huddles. \$200 will buy enough Chick-fil-A biscuits for FCA huddle at one of our Morgan Co. schools. If you are interested, or if your tribe is interested in providing a breakfast, please let Jason or Traci McBay know.
- With a new fiscal year, we are looking for community sponsors. If you own a business and would like to support FCA during the 2022-2023 school year, please let Jason and Traci know.
- Lake Country FCA Power Camp will take place October 11-13 in Greene Co. Please be in prayer for this camp.
- Morgan County Fields of Faith will be Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please pray and mark your calendar to attend.

## Timothy Initiative

- TTI is an organization whose mission is to plant churches in countries all over the globe, to train native pastors to plant these churches, and to instill in them a Biblical desire to make disciples who make disciples.

- Pray for these pastors as they minister in often desolate, impoverished places with limited resources and cultural opposition.

- In particular, pray for the East Africa region of TTI's international ministry. Jake had the opportunity to see firsthand the work that God is doing in Turkana, Kenya, a semi-arid region with widespread poverty and very little access to clean drinking water. In spite of all the obstacles they have faced, through God's grace, Turkana has seen hundreds of microchurches planted and over 19,000 believers come to faith in Christ. Pray for their continued discipleship and for the continued evangelization of nearly a million people in the county.

**- The cost of planting a church through TTI is \$400; consider how your tribe may impact believers across the globe by planting a church through TTI!**