

SUNDAY MORNING MESSAGE – 062815
SERIES: SAMSON – THE SECRET OF STRENGTH
WEEK 4: Failure isn't Final

Judges 16:21 (ESV)

21 And the Philistines seized him and gouged out his eyes and brought him down to Gaza and bound him with bronze shackles. And he ground at the mill in the prison.

With God, failure isn't final

Judges 16:23-24 (ESV)

23 Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to rejoice, and they said, "Our god has given Samson our enemy into our hand." 24 And when the people saw him, they praised their god. For they said, "Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager of our country, who has killed many of us."

2 Corinthians 7:10 (ESV)

For **godly grief** produces a **repentance** that leads to salvation without regret, whereas **worldly grief** produces **death**.

A. Because repentance leads to life

Luke 5:31-32 (ESV)

And Jesus answered them, "... I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

Acts 3:19-20 (ESV)

*19 **Repent therefore**, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, 20 **that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord**, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus,*

B. Because even in your failures God can still use you

Judges 16:25-30 (ESV)

*25 And when their hearts were merry, they said, "Call Samson, that he may entertain us." So they called Samson out of the prison, and he entertained them. They made him stand between the pillars. 26 And Samson said to the young man who held him by the hand, "Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, that I may lean against them." 27 Now the house was full of men and women. All the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about 3,000 men and women, who looked on while Samson entertained. 28 Then Samson called to the LORD and said, "O Lord GOD, please remember me and **please strengthen me** only this once, O God, that I may be avenged on the Philistines for my two eyes." 29 And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. 30 And Samson said, "Let me die with the Philistines." Then he bowed with all his strength, and the house fell upon the lords and upon all the people who were in it. So the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life.*