

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

Sunday, November 20, 2022

Judges 14–16

In Those Days: A Riddle

GOING DEEPER

Can you think of a time when you did one thing and then quickly afterwards did the exact opposite? (eg., starting on a diet and eating a pecan pie on the first day.)

- If you can think of an example, walk through your thinking process at the time.

Read Judges 13:25 and 14:1 back to back. How do these two verses describe what we have been talking about? In what ways do they show the paradox of Samson's life?

Tell the story of Samson from memory. Many of us have heard this story as kids at church, but may not have gotten to the heart of the story. After retelling the story, read Judges 14–16.

- How do you think Samson's parents felt as they continued to parent him after he should have been making mature decisions.
- Who's the culprit in the story, Samson or Delilah? Explain.

A repeated verse in the book of Judges says, "The people did what was right in their own eyes."

- How does this describe Samson?

APPLICATION

Whose view of your behavior matters most to you?

- Is it God's? Or family, friends and bosses? Is it your own eyes that matter most?
- In the sermons today we heard the phrase, "Sin makes you stupid."
List the ways Samson was really stupid.
- How can we learn from Samson's stupidity?