

Road Trip (part #4) UNFORGETTABLE JOURNEY UNFORGETTABLE PEOPLE

“Samson-The Slacker aka The Hot Mess”

Judges 13:3-4

Dangerously Close To Being A “Could Have Been”

Judges 13

⁵You will become pregnant and have a son whose head is never to be touched by a razor because the boy is to be a Nazirite, dedicated to God from the womb. He will take the lead in delivering Israel from the hands of the Philistines. ²⁴The woman gave birth to a boy and named him Samson. He grew and the LORD blessed him, ²⁵and the Spirit of the LORD began to stir him....

*Great Potential & Incredible Calling!

Judges 14

Samson went down to Timnah and saw there a young Philistine woman. ²When he returned, he said to his father and mother, “I have seen a Philistine woman in Timnah; now get her for me as my wife.” ³His father and mother replied, “Isn’t there an acceptable woman among your relatives or among all our people? Must you go to the uncircumcised Philistines to get a wife?”

But Samson said to his father, “Get her for me. She’s the right one for me.” ⁴**(His parents did not know that this was from the LORD, who was seeking an occasion to confront the Philistines; for at that time they were ruling over Israel.)**

*Driven By Passions Not Purpose!

Judges 15

²⁰Samson led Israel for twenty years in the days of the Philistines.

Judges 16

⁴Some time later, he fell in love with...Delilah...“Tell me the secret of your great strength and how you can be tied up and subdued.”... ¹⁵Then 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.” ¹⁶With such nagging she prodded him day after day until he was sick to death of it. ¹⁷So he told her everything... ²⁰Then 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. ²¹Then the Philistines seized him, gouged out his eyes and took him down to Gaza. Binding him with bronze shackles, they set him to grinding grain in the prison. ²²But the hair on his head began to grow again after it had been shaved.

*Decide How You Will Finish Now!

Character Growth insures that these 3 things will not happen or will happen in lessening degrees over time in people’s lives:

1. **Hitting a performance ceiling that is much lower than one’s aptitude**
2. **Hitting an obstacle or situation that derails you**
3. **Reaching great success only to self-destruct and lose it all**

-Henry Cloud (Integrity)

²²Now the rulers of the Philistines assembled to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to celebrate, saying, “Our god has delivered Samson, our enemy, into our hands.” ²³While they were in high spirits, they shouted, “Bring out Samson to entertain us.”...²⁶Samson said to the servant who held his hand, “Put me where I can feel the pillars that support the temple, so that I may lean against them.” ²⁷Now the temple was crowded with men and women; all the rulers of the Philistines were there, and on the roof were about three thousand men and women watching Samson perform. ²⁸Then Samson prayed to the LORD, “Sovereign LORD, remember me. Please, God, strengthen me just once more, and let me with one blow get revenge on the Philistines for my two eyes.” ²⁹Then Samson reached toward the two central pillars on which the temple stood. Bracing himself against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other, ³⁰Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines!” Then he pushed with all his might, and down came the temple on the rulers and all the people in it. Thus he killed many more when he died than while he lived.

*The Lord Can Redeem Our Hot Mess!

JOIN US TODAY

Sunday, June 25th, 2017

Opening
AWAKE MY SOUL

Welcome
FERCE
RESURRECTING

Prayer
Offering
JESUS LOVES ME

Message
"SAMSON-THE SLACKER"
Pastor Dean Ward

PART 4 OF OUR CURRENT SERMON SERIES



GIVING BACK TO GOD

Giving back to God, cheerfully and sacrificially, is part of our worship. It's our way of putting God first in our finances and supporting the mission of The River throughout the year. The combined totals for both The River New Kensington and The River New Heights are listed.

	\$7,150.00 Needed Weekly	Attendance
May 28th	\$ 5,120.57	248
June 4th	\$ 6,591.53	230
June 8th & 11th	\$6,670.00	268
June 15th & 18th	\$3,918.43	334

UPCOMING EVENTS

This Week		Next Week	
Sunday June 25	Graduation Sunday Services 9:30am & 11:15am Whitehall 3-5th Grade Camp Begins	Sunday July 2	Services 9:30am & 11:15am
Wednesday June 28	The River's Edge Youth Group 6-8pm	Wednesday July 5	The River's Edge Youth Group 6-8pm

JULY 13 **VBS DECORATION TEAM CREATE DAY**

@ THE RIVER NEW KENSINGTON 6:00PM

JULY 16 **VBS DECORATION TEAM DECORATE DAY**

@ THE RIVER NEW KENSINGTON AFTER 2ND SERVICE

JULY 17-21 **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

@ THE RIVER NEW KENSINGTON

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STAY CONNECTED! CHECK OUT ALL OF OUR EVENTS
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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

MAKER FUN FACTORY
Credited by GOD
Built for a Purpose
SNACKS

**MUSIC
GAMES
CRAFTS
SNACKS**

JULY 17-21
6:30-8:30PM
AGES 3 THRU GRADE 6
FREE TO ALL

RIVER'S EDGE YOUTH GROUP

Open to youth grades 7-12
Youth Pastor Brian Baker 724-594-7394

Every 2nd and 4th Sunday, the youth are encouraged to attend the 11:15 service. After the offering song, the youth will go into the Youth Room for their lesson.

Wednesdays 6-8pm