

SMALL GROUP RESOURCE

Big Idea: Peace comes from God.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Judges 6:1-16

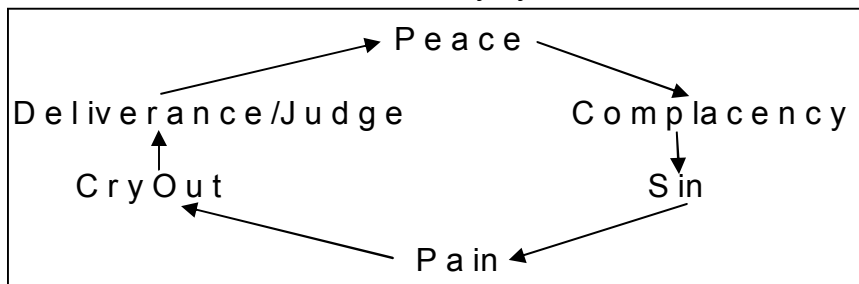
Judges 7

Judges 13:1-7

Judges 14-16

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

The deadly cycle:



Judges 6:1-16

What is the situation in Israel?

Where are they in the cycle shown above?

How would you answer Gideon's question, "Why has all this happened to us?"

How would you respond if God asked you to do something you thought was impossible?

Judges 7

What are the final odds in Gideon's attack on the Midianites?

What is God trying to teach the Israelites?

Judges 13:1-7 & Judges 14-16

What are the 3 elements of the Nazirite vow?

When does Samson's power go away?

Why did God choose Samson?

Where are you in the cycle above?

Do you find yourself going around the circle?

What would have to happen in your life to be able to stay at peace?

PRAYER FOCUS:

Praise God for His faithful love.

Agree with God about your location in the cycle.

Thank God for showing us His power in our weakness.

Ask God for deliverance and peace.

FAMILY RESOURCE

Big Idea: Peace comes from God.

READ JUDGES 13:1-5; 24

What was different about this baby?

What was the baby going to do when he grew up?

Look at your baby pictures.

How are you special?

READ JUDGES 15:1-8

Why does Samson want to hurt the Philistines?

How long would it take to catch 300 foxes?

Tie your legs together for a 3 legged race.

READ JUDGES 15:9-15

Who were the men of Judah afraid of? Why?

Why did Samson let himself be tied up?

What excuse do both the Philistines and Samson use?

Set aside a whole day in which you each promise to let others go first. Tell each other what happened.

READ JUDGES 16:4-21

Did Samson do a good job in choosing a woman?

Why did Samson finally tell Delilah the truth?

Call anyone who whines "Delilah".

READ JUDGES 16:22-30

What kinds of things do you think Samson did to entertain the Philistines?

Was Samson as strong on the inside as he was on the outside?

Was it Samson's hair that made him strong?

Why did Samson want to kill the Philistines?

Build your strength by repeating a memory verse (Philippians 4:13?)

while lifting Bibles up & down in your hands.

If God could use Samson in spite of his selfishness, can you imagine what God could do with someone who puts God first?

Will that someone be you?

MEMORY VERSE:

"Whoever serves __ must follow __;

and where __ __, my servant also will __.

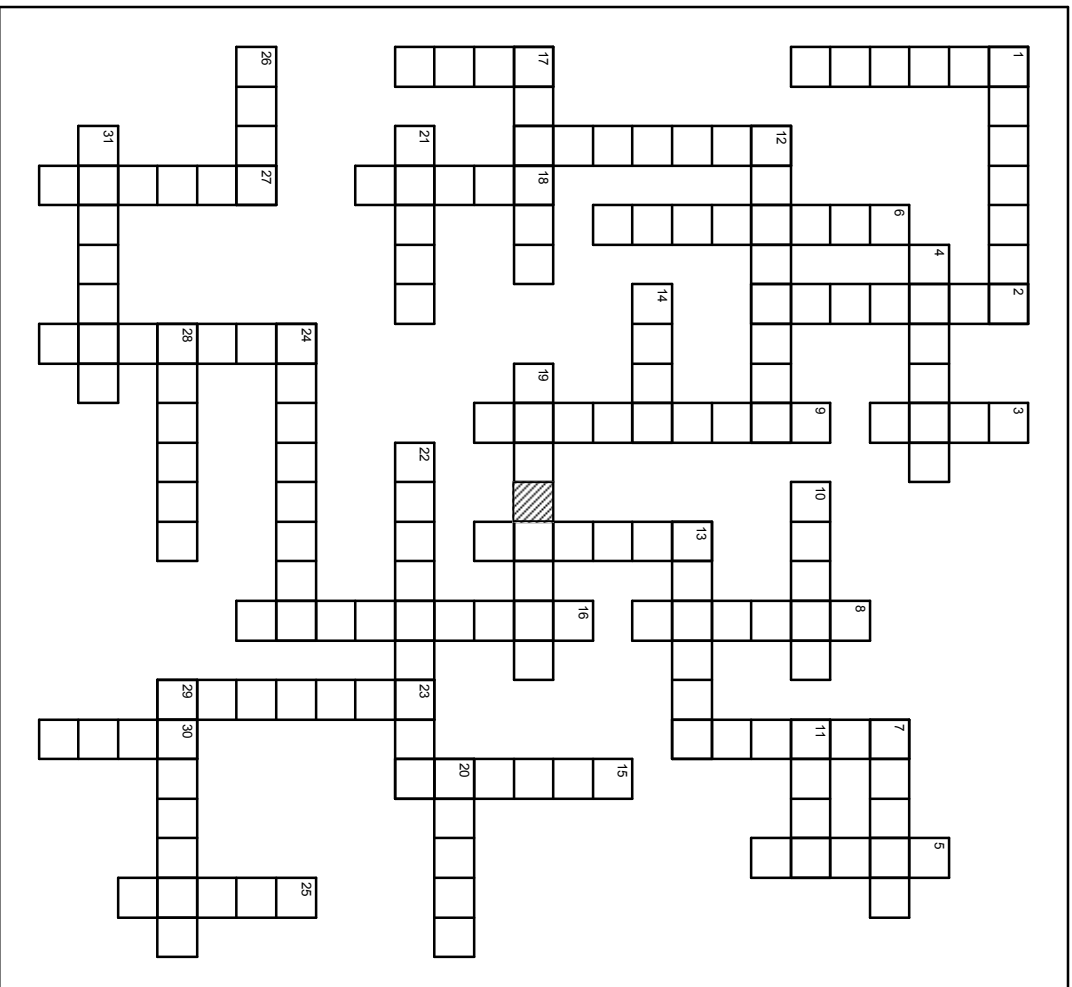
My Father will honor __ __ who serves __."

John 12:26

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Samson



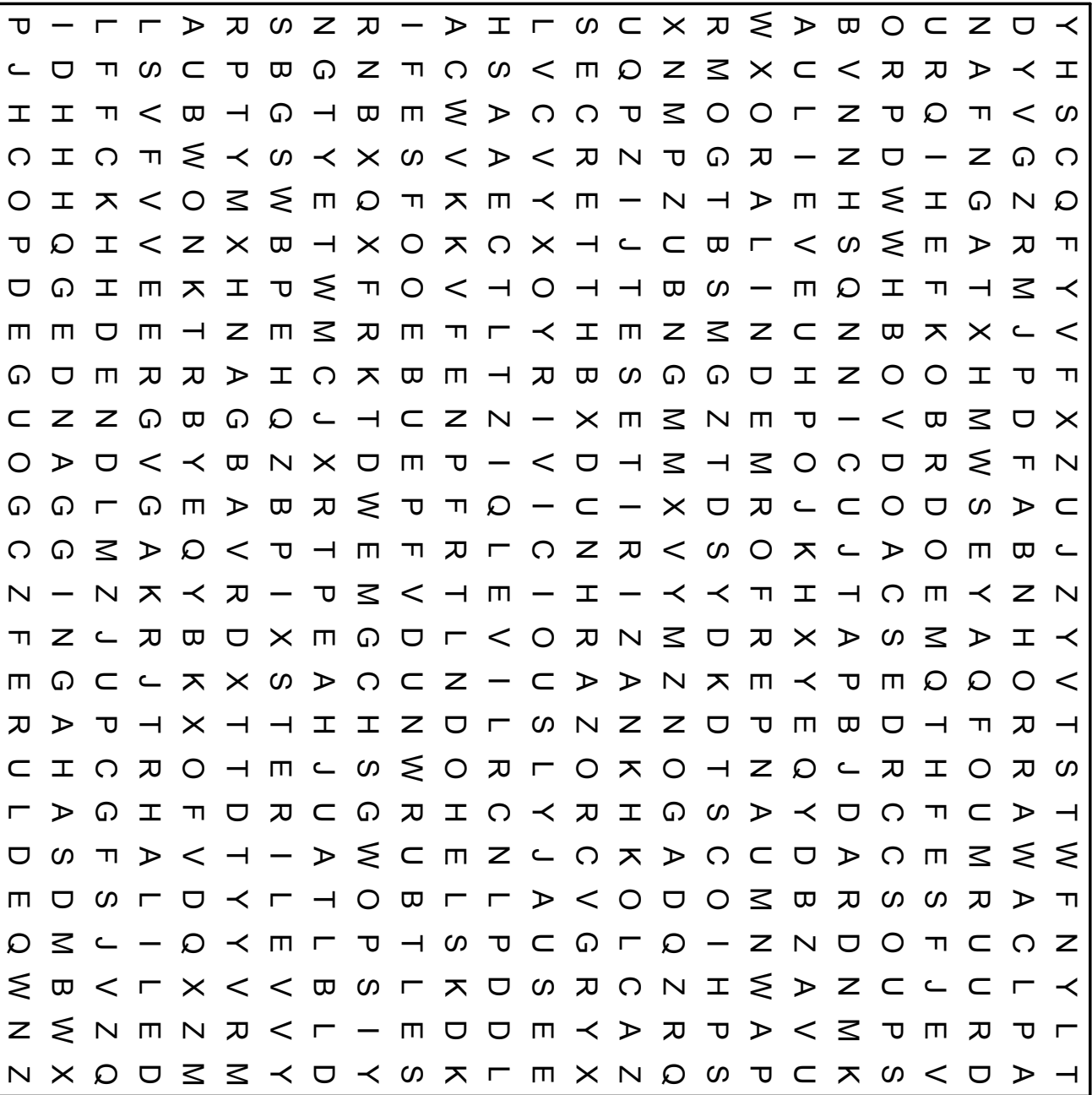
Across

1. columns that support the roof (Judges 16:25)
4. something you shouldn't tell (Judges 16:15)
7. tool for cutting hair (Judges 13:5)
10. promise (Judges 15:12)
11. tempt or trick (Judges 16:5)
12. get pregnant (Judges 13:3)
13. a tied bunch of grain (Judges 15:5)
14. where Samson stayed (Judges 15:8)
17. concealed (Judges 16:8)
19. what Samson wanted to do (Judges 15:3)
20. when lit with fire this provides light (Judges 15:4)
21. tightly put ropes on (Judges 15:13)
22. fiercely (Judges 15:8)
24. someone who doesn't cut their hair or drink alcohol because a promise to God (Judges 13:5)
26. place to weave fabric (Judges 16:13)
28. poked (Judges 16:21)
29. Samson's lover's name (Judges 16:4)
31. part of a skull (Judges 15:15)

Down

1. talked to God (Judges 16:28)
2. unable to have children (Judges 13:2)
3. didn't tell the truth (Judges 16:10)
5. Samson caught 300 of them (Judges 15:4)
6. moving heavy stones to crush grain (Judges 16:21)
7. leaders (Judges 16:27)
8. the baby's name (Judges 13:24)
9. aged so that it develops alcohol (Judges 13:4)
12. burned up (Judges 15:14)
13. kind of money Delilah was promised (Judges 16:5)
15. # of years Samson led Israel (Judges 16:31)
16. did amusing things (Judges 16:25)
17. it began to grow (Judges 16:22)
18. an idol (Judges 16:23)
23. made weak (Judges 16:6)
24. whining (Judges 16:16)
25. this was being harvested (Judges 15:1)
27. the baby's father (Judges 13:2)
30. bad things (Judges 13:1)

Samson



- | | | | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| evil | Manoah | sterile | conceive | fermented | razor |
| Nazirite | Samson | wheat | get even | foxes | torch |
| shocks | viciously | cave | bound | swear | charred |
| jawbone | Delilah | lure | silver | subdued | hidden |
| lied | loom | secret | naughty | gouged | grinding |
| hair | Dagon | performed | pillars | rulers | prayed |
| twenty | | | | | |

Samson

BNOUD	-----	LIEV	-----
NITARZEI	-----	SHCOKS	-----
OGNDA	-----	ONSASM	-----
AMOHNA	-----	EWHTA	-----
VIERLS	-----	RDIINNGG	-----
ELID	-----	RERUSL	-----
YUOISILCV	-----	EROPFERDM	-----
RPYAED	-----	DIDEHN	-----
JOANEWB	-----	IHAR	-----
SPILALR	-----	RTHOC	-----
LRESIET	-----	CRHEDAR	-----
EAVC	-----	FOESX	-----
EUDSBDU	-----	SERCTE	-----
AERSW	-----	NTERFDMEE	-----
ORZAR	-----	IDEHALL	-----
ECVVOEIGN	-----	NGGAIN	-----
ERUL	-----	OOLM	-----
WNTTEY	-----	EUGGOD	-----