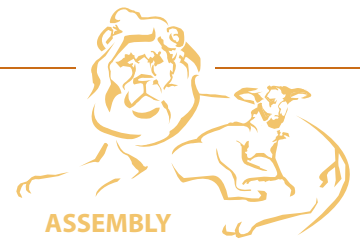


# GOD GAVE SAMSON STRENGTH

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: JUDGES 13 & 15



*The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.*

## LESSON IDEAS

### SAMSON CAPTURED

#### Supplies:

- a costume for Samson such as an old white sheet for a robe, a rope belt, and a long hair wig
- party streamers for rope
- cut out a jawbone from a piece of foam rubber

Note: Quantity of consumable supplies should be adjusted for the number of sessions you will be teaching.

Have a volunteer play Samson. Have the girls play the part of the men from Judah and have the boys play the part of the Philistines. Have the men of Judah confront Samson, who should agree to be tied up. Use the streamers as rope to tie up Samson.

After Samson is handed over to the Philistines, have him break the ropes and pick up the foam jawbone. The Philistine actors should go down quickly as Samson acts out his attack.

After the play talk about how God's Spirit, coming on a man, is capable of giving him great power.

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### POWER FROM ON HIGH

Read Acts 1:4-9.

Explain to the children that this passage is where Jesus tells his disciples they will also have the Spirit of God come upon them. This is the same Spirit that came upon Samson.

This time the Spirit was going to be given for power to share the Gospel. The disciples were very much afraid and hid from the crowds, but after the Holy Spirit was poured out they became bold. God tells us that this same power that came on Samson can come to dwell in each one of us who trusts in Jesus for salvation. God will give us his Spirit so that we can be his witnesses in all the earth.

### JAWBONE

**Supplies:**

- if you know a farmer, ask him if he has a jawbone you could use to demonstrate what Samson used to kill one thousand men, otherwise, get a picture from the library or the Internet

Show the jawbone to the children and talk about which part Samson might have held as the handle. Ask them why God chose a jawbone. Perhaps it is because he wanted Samson and the Philistines to know it was God's power that killed the Philistines.



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### Where Is Jesus?

*Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.*

There is a noteworthy similarity between Jesus and Samson. Both of their mothers received word of their birth and the unique call upon their lives from an angel. Both husbands, Manoah and Joseph were also visited by the angel to confirm what was said. And both Jesus and Samson were blessed of God as children. Samson however was an earthly deliverer who's sin greatly mar his accomplishments.

Although Samson was one of several "Judges" appointed to deliver Israel, Samson's life demonstrates the frailty of earthly deliverers. Samson became foolishly distracted with the pleasures and desires of the world. Jesus was different. Jesus came as a deliverer but did not fall into sin, see Hebrews 4:5.

