



**November 2011**

## **SAMSON -**

Recently, I spoke one of my favourite bible heroes Samson, on a local radio station. The following is a transcript from that interview. **I DARE YOU** to read this transcript and apply the 6 points at the end to your life. **I DARE YOU** to rise up in your current circumstances, declare today, a day that the Lord has made and as you acknowledge Him in all your ways this day. **I DARE YOU** to believe to see His goodness manifest in your life and expect to see Him crown your life with success.

One of my favourite bible hero's Samson. I mean he messed up big time, like so many of us today who have messed up our lives. A good friend of mine once told me "**if you have never made a mistake, you have never made anything**".

*It's not how we start out but how we finish that counts.*

I like to say, "let your mistakes become stepping stones on the road to your success."

Samson had a rough beginning but he finished well, he got it together in the end. A little life's lesson that I have learned is that "**you don't judge a person by their worst day**",

No one would like to be summed up as a person, by their worst day. We all have down days but the good news is, God forgives us, picks us up and gives us another chance.

Samson was a man renowned, as the strongest man who ever lived. I mean, this guy pushed some serious weight; his feats of strength would boggle the minds of the strongest body builders and strong men of our day.

I go to the gym, just to maintain a degree of fitness and strength, as you can tell I don't go as often as I should. I believe, it is important for all of us to do (and I don't mean it's necessary to go the gym, to keep a degree of fitness, but everyone should do some form of exercise. Like walking, swimming or running and do some form of weight resistance exercise)

What is that saying "**that which doesn't break us makes us stronger**".

It's pushing against resistance that keeps us strong and builds our muscles. People also need to build their spiritual and emotional muscles as much as their physical ones.

Down the gym you see these hard core body builders, men and women, that you have to admire for their dedication that they have put in to achieve their results. What I noticed is, that a high percentage of these athletes; the most dedicated ones have a training partner (something Samson didn't have).

One thing I realise, as I observe life is the importance of having good support groups. You can find that in a church fellowship through, life groups or connect groups. One of the big mistakes that Samson made was that he rode alone.

By studying the lives of Gods great men and women in the bible; you can receive a lot of, very valuable life lessons.

The word of God says, **“it's not good for man to dwell alone.”**

I believe God's word is so relevant for us today. You see Samson was a loner; he wasn't connected in to a good fellowship or support group. And soon he sought support and comfort from the wrong people and the wrong means. As the word of God says, **“bad company corrupts good morals.”**

You see through the word of God, in Deuteronomy, **“one can put a thousand to flight and two ten thousand”**, and in Ecclesiastes it says, **“two are better than one cause they have a good reward for their labour.”**

So we see here without the correct influences and support networks (like church) in Samson life, Samson went astray.

Samson went down to Timnath, he went down their alone. Now the name Timnath means to count or reckon, it was a check point in his life. Samson went down, in the Hebrew, this means, to fall or bring him down.

Timnath was the place of the check, a place of decision to count and reckon.

In Colossians 3:15 **“let the peace of God rule in your hearts.”**

Samson went past the place of the check. I believe God will always warn us of wrong decisions and actions or directions with a gut feeling or inner voice. There is the inner witness of his spirit in our life.

Proverbs 3 verse 6 tells us **“in all of our ways acknowledge him and he will crown our efforts with success and direct our paths.”**

It is developing an attitude of dependence upon God. Seeking Gods will for our lives daily, forming good habits.

Samson went past this check, his parents told him not to go, a good friend, if he had one could have warned him. But Samson went past that inner witness he went past the Godly influences and counsel in his life. And the results were very detrimental to his well being.

It cost him years caused him a lot of personal pain and he lost his way for a season. Man gave up on Samson but God still didn't give up on him.

I believe to live a fruitful life and successful life we need to commit our day to God. We need to seek Godly counsel and submit ourselves to good mentors and be open to Gods wisdom, correction and counsel.

So in conclusion there are many life lessons we can learn from Samson and to sum up just a few:

1. Don't judge a person by their worst day
2. It's not how we start out but how we finish which counts.
3. Get into a good support group or church fellowship
4. Listen to Godly counsel and Godly advice; get yourself some good teachers, good mentors, and a good pastor.
5. Don't go past the check! Be sensitive to the inner voice the inner leading of the Holy Spirit, the inner voice of God.
6. Commit your ways to God and he will guide your steps.