

A Man Who Didn't See It Coming

SAMSON DIDN'T RUIN HIS LIFE _____;
HE RUINED IT _____.

One day Samson went to Gaza, where he saw a prostitute. He went in to spend the night with her. The people of Gaza were told, "Samson is here!" So they surrounded the place and lay in wait for him all night at the city gate. They made no move during the night, saying, "At dawn we'll kill him." - *Judges 16:1-2 (NIV)*

SMALL STEPS TOWARD BIG DESTRUCTION

1. Samson _____ The _____.

But Samson lay there only until the middle of the night. Then he got up and took hold of the doors of the city gate, together with the two posts, and tore them loose, bar and all. He lifted them to his shoulders and carried them to the top of the hill that faces Hebron. - *Judges 16:3 (NIV)*

So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!

- *1 Corinthians 10:12 (NIV)*

2. Samson _____ The _____.

Some time later, he fell in love with a woman in the Valley of Sorek whose name was Delilah. - *Judges 16:4 (NIV)*

The rulers of the Philistines went to [Delilah] and said, "See if you can lure him into showing you the secret of his great strength and how we can overpower him so we may tie him up and subdue him." - *Judges 16:5 (NIV)*

Then 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." With such **nagging** she prodded him day after day until he was **tired to death**. - *Judges 16:15-16 (NIV)*

Having put him to sleep on her lap, she called a man to shave off the seven braids of his hair, and so began to subdue him. And **his strength left him**.

- *Judges 16:19 (NIV)*

3. Samson _____ The _____.

Then 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**. Then the Philistines seized him, gouged out his eyes and took him down to Gaza. Binding him with bronze shackles, they set him to grinding in the prison. - *Judges 16:20-21 (NIV)*

WHERE ARE YOU STEPPING AWAY FROM GOD?
