LESSON 20

SAMSON DESTROYS THE PHILISTINES



Aim: **To show the children that it never is too late to turn to God. However, it is very sad to realise that you have wasted many chances to serve God.**

Scripture Reading: **Judges 16:21–30**

Memory Verse: **Psalm 51:1**
Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love …

Presenting the Lesson

Starting point

If you watch a group of dogs or chickens you will notice that they all attack the weakest one. People often are like that: they make fun of those who cannot fight back.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. Samson used to be a very strong man. **Show Picture 19 and briefly review the story.** He had lost his God-given strength because of his disobedience and ungodly way of life. Now the Philistines held him prisoner.
2. The Philistine leaders put out his eyes and made him work in a grinding mill, walking round and round to turn the big stones (16:21).
3. The Philistine leaders were celebrating Samson's defeat by holding a feast in honour of their idol Dagon. They sent for Samson so they could make fun of him (16:23–27).
4. Samson had come to realise that God was the true source of his strength, so he turned to God and asked him to make him strong one last time (16:28).
5. God heard his prayer. Samson leaned on the pillars holding up the roof of Dagon's temple and pulled the building down, killing everybody there (16:29–30). **Show Picture 20.**
6. Samson died with the Philistine leaders. He had wasted the greatest part of his life as well as his precious gift by disobeying God. That was very sad. However, when he turned back to God, God did not reject him.

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Our Response to the Story

The story of Samson's life is a warning to us. God gave him an extraordinary gift but it brought Samson no joy in the end, because he misused it for his own purposes. Let us thank Jesus Christ for coming to show us the way to everlasting victory over disobedience and selfishness.

Instil the Memory Verse



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