

Beautiful
BIBLE TREASURES
For Children

Lesson 40

Level A—Little Bible Treasures:

A Strong Man

Level B—Children's Bible Treasures:

A Strong Man

Level C—Story Time with Jesus:

A Strong Man

Level D—What Does it Actually Say?

A Strong Man

Level E—Bible Bits: Musical Instruments/

Topic Treasures—A Strong Heart

A Strong Man

An angel of God appeared to a woman, telling her about a special child that God was going to give her and her husband.

God gave specific instructions to them on how they were to care for him. The child's name was Samson. God had told them that he should have long hair.

Samson learned about God and obeyed His Word, and when Samson was grown he became a judge. He helped to tell the people about God's ways. God also used him to try to stop the people who were causing them all a lot of trouble.

Samson had a special gift from God that helped him do his job. He was given extra strength! With God's help, when a miracle was needed, Samson was stronger than anyone else.

Whenever he prayed for God's help and obeyed God's instructions, no one could stop him from doing what God wanted him to do.



A Strong Man

A man named Manoah and his wife had no children. One day an angel of the Lord appeared to the woman, and told her some wonderful news. God was going to give them a child—a very special son. He was to belong to the Lord, to do His will, and was whom God was sending to help the Israelites.

God needed a strong man who loved Him, and would live his life as God's helper for the people.

The woman went and told her husband all that the angel had said, and he wanted to meet the angel too, as he had more questions to ask.

The parents were very eager to obey all that God wanted them to do, and wanted to find out more instructions so they could do the best job possible in raising and training their soon-to-come child. He would need the right childhood preparation and care in order to do his job—the job he was sent to Earth to do.

The Manoah and his wife prayed for another chance to talk with the angel, and God sent him again to them. The angel appeared again to the woman while she was out in the field, and then called her husband to come quickly. They both talked to him and listened carefully to his words.

Then it happened! They had a son, just as God said they would.



They were wise parents and trained him well. They obeyed all that God had wanted them to do.

His name was Samson. He kept long hair, as God had told his parents he needed to. When he was grown and ready to begin his work for the Lord, he began to feel the Lord's spirit leading him in what to do. Samson loved God, and prayed, and did whatever God told him to do.

It was a very difficult time for the Israelites, as there were some hurtful and unkind people causing them trouble—because they hadn't been following God's instructions and rules. God wanted to help change things for the better, and so had sent Samson.

God gave Samson great and unusual strength. It was a miracle and a gift of God. There was nothing anyone could do to stop him. With God helping him, he was stronger than anyone else—as long as he obeyed God's instructions, prayed for God's help, and knew it was God who gave him that special gift. God made Samson the judge of Israel, and he did that job faithfully for 20 years!

Activity

*Play an action game. One person at a time takes a turn to act out something that is hard to do. Then all the other players say aloud together, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me!" The actor then demonstrates how they are able to do it! Another player takes a turn to be the actor, and the game continues until all have had a chance.

A Strong Man



This is a story about a man, who with God's strength was able to tackle anything he needed to. He has been known as the strongest man that has lived on Earth. His name is Samson. But even his strongest acts are nothing compared to the strength of God.

Anything is possible to those who believe and obey what I tell them to do. Just because something is impossible, or is thought to be so, is never an obstacle for Me. I can do anything for you and through you and with you, if it's the best thing, and you are praying for My help.

Samson was the man sent to help at a time of great difficulties, when yet again the people of Israel had strayed away like a lost sheep from a shepherd. God wasn't pleased at what His people were doing and their continued disobedience, and this time they had trouble with a group of people called Philistines, who were doing very wrong and bad things at that time.

Since the Israelites were no longer staying close to God and choosing to do things His way, God couldn't protect them and do great miracles for them. This went on for many years, and at last many of them were ready to listen and to change, and were eager to find relief from the troubles that they were having at that time.

God's plan was a new and interesting one. He was going to send the Israelites someone to be a judge and a helper to them, and begin to stop the wrongs that the Philistines were doing. This time God wanted the person to start out as a baby, and to be trained in just the right ways, in order to do the job that God had in mind.

There was a man called Manoah, and he and his wife loved and respected God, but had no children. God chose them to be the parents of this special person He was sending to Earth. To announce it and bring the message from God to this couple, God sent an angel to speak with the

woman. He told her that not only was she to have a child, but also let her know a few important things.

There were special instructions that needed to be followed, in order for God to give them the gift of this special son. The angel told this woman that she was only to eat good food, and not to drink any wine, or strong drinks like that. The child also was to never have his hair cut. It would be as a symbol that He belonged to God, and was a sign of their obedience and commitment to do things His way.

Manoah, her husband, wasn't there at the time, but soon heard about it from his wife! He was very eager to know more about this unexpected and special news that the angel told his wife.

Manoah very much wanted to meet this angel also, as he wanted to make sure they knew what to do, and how to care for this child in the way that God wanted him to be raised and trained. If this son of theirs was to do the big job of helping the Israelites in their time of trouble, Manoah wanted to do just as God wanted them, as his parents, to do. Manoah prayed for the angel to return—and it happened!

Manoah's wife was outside sitting in the field when the same angel came again to speak with her. Knowing how much Manoah wanted to talk with him, she ran as fast as she could to call her husband. The angel waited there, and when both Manoah and his wife returned, he spoke to them together, explaining God's instructions to them.



It's very important for parents to pray and ask for guidance in the care and training of their children. As a result of these parents' careful attention to God's instructions, their son Samson was well prepared to face the difficult job he had.

Things weren't easy at all in the land of Israel, and many sad and disappointing things happened throughout his life. Samson knew however, that God was with him and was taking care of him, and he just needed to do the best he could to obey God's instructions.

God gave him amazing strength of body at the times he needed it, and strength of skill, and speed, and quick reflexes to do things others hadn't done before.

Samson loved, and respected, and chose to obey God. He kept his hair long also, as God told him to do. Samson's heart was guided by the Lord, and he did some amazing things, and saw some incredible miracles occur.

One time he caught 300 foxes on his own! Another time when he was very thirsty and there was no water around, he prayed and God made water pour out of an old bone on the ground.

Samson had tremendous strength at just the right times, as God gave it to him. One time those troublesome folks were trying to stop him, and locked the huge and heavy gates of a city, to try to keep him in there. Samson was given the strength to pull up the gate posts and walk away carrying the weighty gates!

Any type of rope or cord he could break. One time God even gave him the strength to push down a whole building, as it was used by the ungodly people, and God wanted it taken away.

Whatever God needed him to do, he could do. When Samson prayed God did the miracles needed, and Samson knew it was God who was helping him. Samson helped to teach the Israelites God's way, and was a faithful judge in the land of Israel for 20 years.

God gave him strength in many different ways. Samson was given strength of heart, to bear with sad times and heartbreaks and all the things that didn't work out as he wished they would in his life.

There was nothing easy about his life. Many things went contrary to the way he would have liked them to be. People disappointed him, some were unkind, others deceived him, and people mistreated him. Yet he stayed true to God no matter what.

God gave him strength of will, also, to not give up but to do whatever he set out to do, as he felt God leading him, and to complete the tasks. Even though some things didn't seem to others like the best thing to do, he stayed focused on the job and on the leading in his heart from the Lord, and wasn't swayed by the opinions of others.

God gave him strong faith in spite of all the hardships that were going on around him, and having to be often around people who had little or no faith in God. Samson kept believing, praying, obeying, following, and depending on God throughout his life. When he prayed, God answered, and that was the true source of his amazing strength in all ways.

Samson had strength to keep secrets—some he kept for years and years! He didn't just say everything that was on his mind to whoever happened to be around. He knew his life belonged to God, and that he had an important job to do. He was careful with his words, and knew that words can affect people and situations.

One secret he kept was that his long hair was special. Everyone knew he had long hair, but they didn't know why, and how his obedience in never cutting it was connected to God blessing him with strength.

He may have been asked all kinds of questions many times as he grew up, and as a man, why his hair had never been cut, and what was the secret to his strength. But some things are important to keep between you and God. Only Samson and his parents knew this secret.



Sometimes it's best not to say things, if it's to the wrong people who won't help you in your mission for God. Once, towards the end of his life, someone he loved pressured him so much to tell her this secret. He didn't want to see her acting so sad, as he loved her. At last he told the secret, and soon after that she wanted to try it out, and cut his hair.

It is a very sad and hurtful thing to do, to betray someone's love and trust, and it made Samson so very sad. It also removed God's special strength from him for a while, and during that time he was no longer able to do his job of helping to teach and protect the Israelites.

However, God has a way of working things out in the end, and later after he prayed with all his heart, he was given new strength again to put a stop to many of the Philistines as a result.

Samson's life is an example that with God helping you, anything is possible. Though some people say that it was his hair that gave him strength, it was really his obedience and dedicating his life to God that brought on the blessing and the miracles.

Even the cutting of his hair and the temporary loss of strength was an example to the people of Israel of what they had been doing, in a way. They had not kept God's instructions, and stayed special and dedicated to the Lord, and thus had lost His blessings and help for a while.

The example of Samson then praying and receiving new strength after his time of weakness and difficulty showed the Israelites that if they, too, would pray for help, and turn to God, wanting to do His will again, He could do miracles for them.

Let's Talk About It

*If you ever met someone that you knew was an angel, what kinds of questions would you like to ask? Do you think you would be uncomfortable talking with them, or do you think you would enjoy it?

*What do you think is the most important kind of strength to have and why—strong will power, or strong of faith, or physical strength, or a strong immune system, or a strong heart and spirit? How does each of these things help you in your life?

Activity

*Have a "talk time" game. Spin a bottle or use a spinner, and whoever it points to gets to answer the question, "What 'strength' or ability would you really like to have, that you think would help you do something special for the Lord?" Let each one fully explain their feelings and thoughts, and treat each one's answers with respect and consideration.

A Strong Man



Connect and Communicate

*See how many words you can use to describe some of the things that Jesus is. Take turns saying, "Jesus is ____" and each one states a new description. For example, "Jesus is mighty" or "Jesus is compassionate" and so forth.

Study Fun

Repeat aloud: Any specific instructions given to Samson's parents.

Select: The questions that are asked in the passages below, and some dialogue. Play a game at the end, where one of the questions or a sentence of dialogue is read, and people have to remember who it was that asked that question or said it. (The angel, or Manoah, or his wife.)

Summarise: The story after reading.

Judges

13:2 And there was a certain man of Zorah, of the family of the Danites, whose name was Manoah; and his wife was barren, and bare not.

13:3 And the angel of the Lord appeared unto the woman, and said unto her, Behold now, thou art barren, and bearest not: but thou shalt conceive, and bear a son.

13:4 Now therefore beware, I pray thee, and drink not wine nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean thing:

13:5 For, lo, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and no razor shall come on his head: for the child shall be a Nazarite unto God from the womb: and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.

13:6 Then the woman came and told her husband, saying, A man of God came unto me, and his countenance was like the countenance of an angel of God, very terrible: but I asked him not whence he was, neither told he me his name:

13:7 But he said unto me, Behold, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and now drink no wine nor strong drink, neither eat any unclean thing: for the child shall be a Nazarite to God from the womb to the day of his death.

13:8 Then Manoah intreated the Lord, and said, O my Lord, let the man of God which thou didst send come again unto us, and teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born.

13:9 And God hearkened to the voice of Manoah; and the angel of God came again unto the woman as she sat in the field: but Manoah her husband was not with her.

13:10 And the woman made haste, and ran, and shewed her husband, and said unto him, Behold, the man hath appeared unto me, that came unto me the other day.

13:11 And Manoah arose, and went after his wife, and came to the man, and said unto him, Art thou the man that spakest unto the woman? And he said, I am.

13:12 And Manoah said, Now let thy words come to pass. How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him?



13:13 And the angel of the Lord said unto Manoah, Of all that I said unto the woman let her beware.

13:17 And Manoah said unto the angel of the Lord, What is thy name, that when thy sayings come to pass we may do thee honour?

13:18 And the angel of the Lord said unto him, Why askest thou thus after my name, seeing it is secret?

13:19 So Manoah took a ... meat offering, and offered it upon a rock unto the Lord: and the angel did wonderously; and Manoah and his wife looked on.

13:20 For it came to pass, when the flame went up toward heaven from off the altar, that the angel of the Lord ascended in the flame of the altar. And Manoah and his wife looked on it, and fell on their faces to the ground.

13:21 But the angel of the Lord did no more appear to Manoah and to his wife. Then Manoah knew that he was an angel of the Lord.

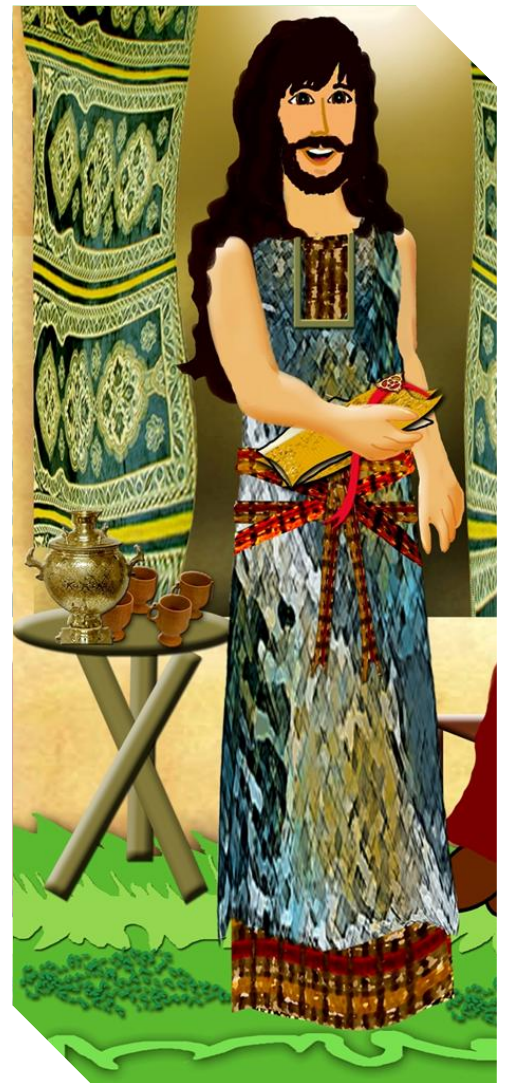
13:24 And the woman bare a son, and called his name Samson: and the child grew, and the Lord blessed him.

13:25 And the Spirit of the Lord began to move him at times in the camp of Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.

15:18a And he was sore athirst, and called on the Lord.

15:19 But God clave an hollow place that was in the jaw, and there came water thereout; and when he had drunk, his spirit came again, and he revived: wherefore he called the name thereof Enhakkore, which is in Lehi unto this day.

15:20 And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.



Activity

* Learn tips on hair care. Learn names and spellings of hair colour.
(blond/ blonde; brunet/brunette, etc.)

Fountain of Faith

2 Samuel 22:33-34

God is my strength and power: and he maketh my way perfect. He maketh my feet like hinds' feet: and setteth me upon my high places.



2 Chronicles 20:20b Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.

Musical Instruments

Prayer

Psalms 6:9 The Lord hath heard my supplication; the Lord will receive my prayer.

*Choose a topic for prayer. Take turns or go around the circle with each one adding to the prayer a few words, a phrase or sentence, carrying on with what the one before them said, until the prayer has been completed.

Cymbals—Psalms 150:5 Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.

Cornet—Psalms 98:6 With trumpets and sound of cornet make a joyful noise before the Lord, the King.

Harp—1 Samuel 16:23 David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well.

Organ—Genesis 4:21 And his brother's name was Jubal: he was the father of all such as handle the harp and organ.

Pipe—1 Kings 1:40 And all the people came up after him, and the people piped with pipes, and rejoiced with great joy, so that the earth rent with the sound of them.

Psaltery—Psalms 33:2 Praise the Lord with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings.

Tabret—1 Samuel 10:5 Thou shalt meet a company of prophets coming down from the high place with a psaltery, and a tabret, and a pipe, and a harp, before them; and they shall prophesy.

Timbrel—Exodus 15:20 And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances.

Trumpet—2 Chronicles 29:27 The song of the Lord began also with the trumpets, and with the instruments ordained by David king of Israel.

Made of fir wood—2 Samuel 6:5 And David and all the house of Israel played before the Lord on all manner of instruments made of fir wood, even on harps, and on psalteries, and on timbrels, and on cornets, and on cymbals.

Made of brass—1 Corinthians 13:1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

Made of silver—Numbers 10:2 Make thee two trumpets of silver; of a whole piece shalt thou make them: that thou mayest use them for the calling of the assembly, and for the journeying of the camps.

Made of horns of animals—Joshua 6:8 And it came to pass, when Joshua had spoken unto the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns passed on before the Lord, and blew with the trumpets: and the ark of the covenant of the Lord followed them.

The Jews celebrated for inventing—Amos 6:5 That chant to the sound of the viol, and invent to themselves instruments of musick, like David.

Great diversity of—Ecclesiastes 2:8 I gathered me also silver and gold, and the peculiar treasure of kings and of the provinces: I gat me men singers and women singers, and the delights of the sons of men, as musical instruments, and that of all sorts.



Activity

*Invent a just-for-fun musical instrument! (Can use rubber bands, or bottles with water to tap, or boxes, or whatever!)



Topic Treasures —A Strong Heart

Study Fun

Repeat aloud: A key phrase or selected words from each verse in the study.

Select: A favourite verse from the compilation below to commit to memory.

Summarise: Some of the main points that these verses tell—of what makes a heart and spirit strong.

Psalm 27:14 Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.

Psalm 31:24 Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord.

Psalm 10:17 Lord, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt prepare their heart, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear.

Psalm 15:2 He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.

Psalm 19:14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.

Psalm 27:8 When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, Lord, will I seek.

Psalm 28:7 The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.

Psalm 34:18 The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Psalm 37:31 The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.

Psalm 49:3 My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.



Daily Diary

*Make a list of the important things that these verses mention are needed, in order for us to have strong and happy hearts. Pray for the Lord to give your heart these things. (Examples: humility, joy, understanding, courage, etc.)