

# God's Story Our Story

## Samson - Blindness

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**You don't have to lose your eyes to be blind.**

**We can be...**

✓ **Blind to God's purpose for our life.**

*"You will become pregnant and have a son whose head is never to be touched by a razor because the boy is to be a Nazirite, dedicated to God from the womb. He will take the lead in delivering Israel from the hands of the Philistines." Judges 13:5 (NIV)*

*Where there is no revelation, people cast off restraint. Proverbs 29:18 (NIV)*

✓ **Blind to the power of relationships.**

*When he returned, he said to his father and mother, "I have seen a Philistine woman in Timnah; now get her for me as my wife." His father and mother replied, "Isn't there an acceptable woman among your relatives or among all our people? Must you go to the uncircumcised Philistines to get a wife?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me. She's the right one for me." Judges 14:2-3*

*Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."  
1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV)*

*"Honor your father and mother" which is the first commandment with a promise— "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." Ephesians 6:2-3*

✓ **Blind to the nature of God.**

*After putting him to sleep on her lap, she called for someone to shave off the seven braids of his hair, and so began to subdue him. And his strength left him. 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 grain in the prison. Judges 16:19-21 (NIV)*

*My spirit shall not always strive with man. Genesis 6:3 (KJV)*

*What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?  
Romans 6:1-2 (ESV)*

## **Samson's Life Teaches us to...**

1. "Protect the presence of God."

*Do not put out the Spirit's fire. 1 Thessalonians 5:19 (NIV)*

*And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Ephesians 4:30 (NIV)*

2. "Choose your relationships carefully."

- Nurture important relationships.
- Restore broken relationships.
- Sever harmful relationships.
- Initiate some meaningful relationships.

*He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm. Proverbs 13:20 (NIV)*

*Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Heb. 10:25*

3. "Failure is never final."

*Then Samson prayed to the LORD, "Sovereign LORD, remember me. Please, God, strengthen me just once more..." Judges 16:28*

*Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life.  
1 Timothy 1:15-16 (NIV)*

- Failure is only final when we refuse to get back up!