

# SAMSON & SELF CONTROL

*Large Group Script*

## **-SLIDE- Welcome**

**Start kids countdown once all classes are present**

## **-SLIDE- Series Intro (2-5 min)**

Hey kids! Welcome to kids church. I'm so glad you could be here today. We're gonna have fun, right? Let's get started.

Today we're starting a new series. We are going to learn about some Bible heroes from the Old Testament. Do you know any heroes from the Bible? **(allow a few kids to answer.)** Good. The Bible is full of people that did some really cool things. Moses parted the Red Sea and Joshua marched around a city playing music that knocked walls down. But you know what, even these heroes made mistakes. Sometimes they lacked faith in God that He would do what He said He would do. Others told lies or even disobeyed God's orders. Why do you think God would want stories of failure and disappointment in the Bible? Why not leave out the stuff the heroes did wrong? **(allow a few kids to guess).** God wanted to show us that we can't do it on our own. We need God's help and His strength to help us.

Today, we're going to talk about a Bible hero that had a hard time understanding that he couldn't do things in his own strength. Even though he had huge muscles and cool hair, he couldn't accomplish anything without God's help. His name is Samson. Who has heard of Samson? **(allow a few kids to answer).** Good. Samson was a judge. Not a judge that sits in a courtroom. Back then, a judge was a person who was called by God to help His people called the Israelites. In this case, Samson was needed to help defeat the Philistines. In our video today, we'll learn more about Samson and what he did right and what he did wrong.

The worship song we're about to sing is the song we'll sing during this whole series. It's called No one Greater. This song will help us realize that there is no one greater than our God and He helps us accomplish great things. Let's stand and sing together!

## **-SONG- No one Greater (3 min)**

That was great! Good job. I think God loves to hear all your voices praising Him. Now, let's sit down and be quiet so we can hear about our Big idea and Key Question for the day.

**-SLIDE- Big Idea: God gives us strength to exercise self control. (repeat with kids)**

**-SLIDE- Key Question: How do we train ourselves in godliness?**

This is a really important question. Let's listen to the video to get the answer.

**-VIDEO- [Samson and Self Control](#) (4 min)**

**-SLIDE- Recap (3 min)**

So, what did we learn from the video today? Let's review...

- What's the name of the Bible hero we are learning about today? (Samson)
- Did he have big muscles or little muscles? (big)
- What is the story of Samson really about? (self control)
- What is self control? (the ability to make good choices when you're tempted not to)
- Who made Samson strong and who makes us strong? (God)

Samson was strong and mighty, right? God had given him everything he needed to be a hero for the people. Samson said he wanted to be faithful to God and fulfill God's plan for his life. But, what happened? What did Samson do wrong in the story? (**allow a few kids to answer**). Right, he broke some promises he had made to God. Why do you think he chose to break promises? (**allow a few kids to answer**). That's right. He lacked the self control he needed to make good choices. He saw something he wanted, a pretty girlfriend, and decided he would ignore God and do whatever he wanted. What happened when he made that bad choice? (**allow a few kids to answer**). God took his strength away.

So, what does this mean for us? Raise your hand if you think God has big plans for you? Even if you're not sure or if you didn't raise your hand, I can promise you that He does. The Bible says that He has big plans for each and every one of you. But, we have to practice self control everyday so we're ready for whatever mission God gives us. Don't be like Samson who got lazy and didn't use self control. God will give you the strength, you just have to choose self control the moment you need it. You know, that moment you are tempted to do something you know is wrong. And guess what? When we make a mistake, and we will make mistakes, God will still

help us. He didn't leave Samson and he won't leave us. At the end of the story, Samson had the opportunity to save the good guys from the bad guys. Once he learned the importance of self control, God gave him another opportunity to exercise it and to be a hero.

Stand up and let's say our memory verse for this week.

**-SLIDE- Memory Verse:** Physical training (**run in place**) is good (**left thumb up**), but training for godliness (**put right hand over heart**) is much better (**two thumbs up**).

1 Timothy 4:8 (**Repeat**)

Great job! I hope you practice that at home this week. I challenge all of you to memorize this verse. It's nice and short. Now let's sing again.

**-SONG-[Imagine the Impossible](#) (3 min)**

Okay, we're ready to answer the...

**-SLIDE- Key question: How do we train ourselves in godliness? (allow a few kids to answer).**

**-SLIDE- The answer:** Do things that encourage you to go God's way. (Reading your Bible, obeying, and listen to the Holy Spirit.)

As we get ready to go to small groups, remember the Big Idea. Let's say it one more time...

**-SLIDE- Big Idea: God gives us strength to exercise self control. (Have kids repeat)**

**-SLIDE- Let's Pray**

**-SLIDE- Let's go to small groups**