Small Groups: "*A Transforming Relationship with Jesus Christ*"

Anointed: "The Strength of the Holy Spirit" 9/13/26

Judges 15:9-20

Introduction

The Book of Judges is packed with demonstrations of the Holy Spirit's work in the lives of God's people. In the Old Testament, the third person of the Trinity's main work was the *anointing* for a specific service. The Spirit's mode of operation, however, was that when the task was accomplished, the Spirit left the individual. This was different from His coming in the New Testament, in that His mode for operating in the life of God's people changed from coming and leaving to coming and permanently residing with God's people. However, Samson, a judge set apart by God to deliver His people, was a preview of the permanent presence, and a demonstration of supernatural strength given by the Holy Spirit.

After Samson's parents had a supernatural encounter with God *(Judges 13)*, God told the barren couple that they would have a son who will be set apart for the purposes of God *(13:5)*. In other words, from new birth, Samson would have the dwelling of the Holy Spirit, and the reason would be to overcome the enemies of God's people. In the life of Samson, through God's sovereignty, God set the stage for the Holy Spirit's supernatural strength, created a need for the Spirit's strength, so that, in the end, God's people would experience the victory that comes from the Holy Spirit's strength. Through the life of Samson, we learn that God is mighty to save and deliver.

Getting Started

1. Discuss the Nazirite Vow *(Numbers 6:1-8)*
2. Is there anyone in the New Testament that is set apart for the purposes of God? *(c.f. 1 Peter 2:9-12; 2 Timothy 2:21-22*
3. How was Samson able to kill a lion, tie the tails of foxes, plunder the enemy, and defeat over 1,000 enemy forces? *(Judges 14:6, 19; 15:14)*

Let's Get Personal

1. What does this story from the Old Testament teach us about strength in the church today? *(Ephesians 6:10)*
2. Samson ripped a lion in half! Who represents a lion in the New Testament? *(1 Peter 5:6-8)*
3. Who do you believe has the Holy Spirit's anointing? *(1 John 2:25-27)*
4. In the passages about Samson, why do you believe God would indirectly lead him into a compromising situation? *(14:4-5)*
5. Do you have a testimony of God's strength in your Christian journey?
6. Do you find yourself in need of God's strength?

Small Groups: "*A Transforming Relationship with Jesus Christ*"

Take the Next Step

1. Pray for one another for spiritual strength.