

# SAMSON

## Big Idea: My Own Worst Enemy (Judges 14:1-10)

Pastor Curt Seaburg Part 1

Do you ever feel like you take 3 steps forward, and then 4 steps back? Do the same destructive patterns keep showing up in your life? You don't have to fall for the same lies and temptations over and over again. Our disordered desires are our own worst enemy.

**There are things on the inside, that if left unchecked, can bring about our own destruction.**

Pastor Curt kicked off a brand-new series this week on the life of Samson. Samson was an incredibly strong man with a dangerously weak will. He was undisciplined, unbridled, and had no accountability in his life. Samson was a man with unlimited potential but fell short. We fall short because we give our passions to the wrong things. We can commit to a workout or diet, but we cannot commit to the house of God. We can spend hours researching the best car parts, new hairstyles, new golf clubs, etc.... but we can't spend 5 minutes in God's word. If our passions are misguided over time, our life is going to self-destruct.

**The 3 Attitudes of Self-Destruction: I want it. I deserve it. I can handle it.**

**I want it – LUST.** Lust is not always sexual. The 3 avenues sin travels are found in 1 John and can basically be explained as anything that brings your body pleasure. *For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life - comes not from the Father but from the world. 1 John 2:16*

**I deserve it – ENTITLEMENT.** “I’ve got this.” or “I can say what I want.” On several occasions we find Samson breaking his vows. Why? Because it was accepted behavior by the majority. You will not find truth in today's culture. It's all subjective. Whatever I think is true, is true. The majority is driving what's “true” today. Why are we looking to culture for right and wrong? We should be looking to God's Word!!!

**I can handle it – PRIDE.** Fast forward... Samson's eyes are gouged out, he's bound, his hair was cut, his strength is gone, he is now the laughingstock of the people he was sent to deliver. What happened? He gave into lust, felt he deserved it, and believed he could handle it. He self-destructed. It's never too late to be the person he wants you to be!!! *What a miserable man I am! Who will save me from this body that brings me death? God will. I thank him for saving me through Jesus Christ our Lord! Romans 7:24-25 (ICB)*

## Talk it Over

- We all have things on the inside of us, that if left unchecked, can bring about our own destruction. What are these things that can destroy us?
- How did Samson show us the three attitudes of self-destruction? In what ways can you relate?
- Ask yourself if something ungodly that started out as fun or exciting has now has either taken control of your life or is pulling you toward destruction and you are unable to stop it?
- What is God's remedy in Romans 7:25?

## Prayer Focus

This week, let's ask God to help us identify areas of our life where we may be walking towards self-destruction and ask the Lord to give us clarity on how to see things through His lens!

## Next Steps

Let's all try to identify one area of our life where we can take the lead into healthier choices. Look at the actions we need to take in order to guard ourselves from self-destructive attitudes and behaviors.

## Leader Tip

Be open with areas in your life where you've made self-destructive choices. Encourage your group to share with each other and be willing to speak into each other's lives to prevent those kinds of mistakes!