**Lessons Learned from Samson’s Story**

1. Samson’s failure (Judges 13-16)
2. Samson’s *faith*? (Hebrews 11:32)
	1. He’s a seemingly negative role model
	2. The Bible doesn’t leave off there:
		1. The example of Jonah (Matt 12:38-41)
		2. The “Hall of Faith” (Hebrews 11:32)
3. God’s faithfulness is the true focus of:
	1. Samson’s Story (as a TYPE)
		* 1. His calling
			2. His Gentile Bride
			3. His power over a dangerous beast
			4. The wedding feast
			5. Striking against Israel’s enemies as God’s appointed deliverer
			6. His betrayals
			7. The betrayal of his bride (Delilah)
			8. His end; the Cross – With this final act, he began the deliverance that would free his people
	2. The book of Judges (Judg 13:1-5)
	3. Hebrews (Heb 11:39-12:2)

**If we’re not careful, God’s grace becomes an endorsement (from our perspective). God’s patience does not equal license!**

**Conclusion:** Ultimately the point of these stories and characters isn’t so we can model *THEIR* behavior but is that we have the opportunity to follow the real central character – God Himself.

(Philippians 3:10)

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