

# SMALL STEPS TOWARD BIG DESTRUCTION

## Where Is My Strength, Part 3

Pastor Ken Ritz \* Nov 1, 2020 \* New Life Vineyard Church

*Then God opened up the hollow place in Lehi, and water came out of it. When Samson drank, his strength returned and he revived. So the spring was called En Hakkore, and it is still there in Lehi. Samson led Israel for twenty years in the days of the Philistines.* Judges 15:19-20

### **Samson Didn't Ruin His Life All At Once: He Ruined It One Step At A Time.**

*One day Samson went to the Philistine town of Gaza and spent the night with a prostitute. Word soon spread that Samson was there, so the men of Gaza gathered together and waited all night at the town gates. They kept quiet during the night, saying to themselves, "When the light of morning comes, we will kill him."* Judges 16:1-2 NLT

#### **SAMSON'S SMALL STEPS TOWARD DESTRUCTION**

##### **1. SAMSON \_\_\_\_\_ HIS ENEMY.**

*But Samson stayed in bed only until midnight. Then he got up, took hold of the doors of the town gate, including the two posts, and lifted them up, bar and all. He put them on his shoulders and carried them all the way to the top of the hill across from Hebron.* Judges 16:3 NLT

*So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!* 1 Corinthians 10:12

##### **2. SAMSON \_\_\_\_\_ THE SAME OLD SIN.**

*Some time later, he fell in love with a woman in the Valley of Sorek whose name was Delilah.* Judges 16:4

*The rulers of the Philistines went to [Delilah] and said, "See if you can lure him into showing you the secret of his great strength..."* Judges 16:5

*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.* Judges 16:19

##### **3. SAMSON ASSUMED HIS DISOBEDIENCE WOULD NEVER \_\_\_\_\_ 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 in the prison.* Judges 16:20-21

*You may be sure that your sin will find you out.* Numbers 32:23

#### **WHERE ARE YOU STEPPING AWAY FROM GOD?**

*But the hair on his head began to grow again after it had been shaved.* Judges 16:22

#### **"Homework"**

- What are some steps away from God that tend to get overlooked and aren't recognized as dangerous?
- Where are you stepping away from God?
- As you turn towards God, what are some of the first steps you'll need to take?