

Samson: Practice Self-Control

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

Self-control isn't a self-help idea; it's a character that only grows with the help of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). As followers of Christ, we are called to live differently, and yet we often still fall short despite the conviction of the Holy Spirit or regularly attending Sunday services. Samson is a powerful example of this struggle. Born to a barren woman through a divine promise, Samson was chosen before birth and set apart as a Nazarite. He had every reason to walk in obedience and self-control, but even when God's calling, his life reveals how ignoring self-control can lead to regret, missed potential, and painful discipline (Judges 13:2-5). There are three important principles we can learn from Samson's story.

Master Your Emotions

When we are led by our emotions instead of God's truth, we will often make decisions that we later regret. Emotions aren't inherently wrong, but they must be filtered and processed according to God's Word. Samson often gave into his emotions and fleshly desires, demanding to be married to a Philistine woman, even if it went against God's commands (Deuteronomy 7:3-4). Not everyone that we think is good or looks good to us is from God. Samson's parents warned him against marrying this woman, but Samson still insisted. (Judges 14:1-4). Although God still accomplished His purpose through Samson, Samson missed the blessing of obedience and invited heartbreak.

Mind Your Weaknesses

We shouldn't just flee from our weaknesses; we should be mindful and aware of them.

In fact, God will often allow us to experience hardship and face the consequences of our disobedience and actions so that we can see our blind spots more clearly. In Samson's case, he relied on his strength to get what he wanted, even when it violated his vow as a Nazarite (Judges 14:5-9). But God was teaching Samson a lesson – that even with great strength, he couldn't get the wife that he wanted. God kept showing Samson grace, giving him time to repent and change and do things God's way. If we don't deal with the red flags and weaknesses in our lives, it will cause more pain in the end.

Magnify Your God

In life, we either humble ourselves before God or He will humble us through consequences. When we magnify God, we say, "Lord, You are in control, not me." Samson didn't learn from his past and fell again, this time with Delilah. He gave in to temptation, ignoring red flags, and eventually lost everything – even God's presence (Judges 16:20). In the end, broken and blind, Samson cried out to God, and God gave him the strength to fulfill his purpose (Judges 16:28-30). No matter how badly we mess up, God can still redeem our story when we return to Him (1 Peter 2:24).

last week's memory verse

Like a city that is broken into
and without walls Is a man who
has no control over his spirit.

PROVERBS 25:28

discuss this message

- What areas in your life are you having a difficult time practicing self-control? What are the consequences as a result of that?
- What are the triggers that make you give in to your wrong desires?
- What lessons can you apply from the story of Samson that can help you practice self-control?

WATCH THE CONCISE
VERSION OF THIS MESSAGE:

[https://go.ccf.org.ph/
RunThrough](https://go.ccf.org.ph/RunThrough)

DOWNLOAD THIS SUNDAY'S
4WS EVERY MONDAY!

ccf.org.ph/4ws/

Are you sure of your life choices?

Let's talk about it. See you at the Welcome Center!

STEP INTO the community




Fellowship and learn together with people like you!

WOMEN2WOMEN ALL WOMEN

What Am I Here For?: How-To Discover Your Calling

with Earl Beja-Paolo
April 24, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED ONLINE

  ccfwomen2women
 CCFWomen2WomenMinistry




B1G MINISTRY SINGLES

Beyond the Brokenness: Finding God's Purpose & Blessing in Family Conflicts

Session 1: From Pit to Purpose

April 25, Friday, 7:30 PM, MPH

CONNECT WITH THEM ONLINE


   B1GMinistry

MOVEMENT+ ALL MEN 18 Y/O AND UP

Wicked Men (How NOT to Be Like Them)

April 26, Saturday, 2:00 PM, Room 2A

CONNECT WITH THEM ONLINE

  movingmentochrist

NXTGEN KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

Here I Am: Answering God's Call in Faith

Sundays, 9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM
G/F CCF Center (ages 4-12)

BIBLE LESSON PREMIERE: for ages 4-12
9:00 AM at   ccfnxtgen

ZOOM: for ages 7-12; 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM
message us on Facebook to sign-up

RESOURCES:

<https://linktr.ee/NXTGENFamilyResources>



June 5 to 7, CCF Center

TICKETS:

PHP800 for commitment card holders
PHP1,000 for regular tickets
Get tickets at any CCF Satellite
or online at moveconference.org.ph

LEARN MORE about our faith

Be GLC-Equipped in your Discipleship Journey!

GLC LEVEL 1 — Be a Disciple

Book 1: One by One, Session 5

ONSITE: April 20, Sunday
10:30 AM, 2/F Annex Bldg.

ZOOM: April 23, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines, Session 5

ONSITE: April 20, Sunday
1:30 PM, G/F Annex Bldg.

ZOOM: April 23, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

GLC LEVEL 2 — Be a Discippler

Book 8: Survey of the Bible, Session 1 & 2

ONSITE: April 20, Sunday, 1:00 PM, Room 3A

ZOOM: April 24, Thursday, 7:30 PM

Can't attend GLC F2F or GLC Zoom?

Use the E-Learning format or
do GLC in your DGroups!

Power-Up: What If You're Stuck? (Breaking the Monotony in Small Groups)

Sundays, May 4, 11, and 18 at 11:00 AM and
2:00 PM, 2/F Annex Bldg.

True Life Retreat: BELIEVE

May 23 and 24, Friday and Saturday
CCF Center

REGISTRATION FEE: PHP1,200
(inclusive of materials, T-shirt, and lunch)

BE PART OF GLC CLASSES AND
EVENTS: linktr.ee/ccfglc

STEP UP AND volunteer

No better way to serve God than to serve His people!

Is God calling you to serve?

Volunteer with us for our 6:00 PM service!



Register at [go.ccf.org.ph/
VolunteerSignUp](http://go.ccf.org.ph/VolunteerSignUp)
or scan the QR code below

YOU BEING HERE IS NO ACCIDENT!

God brought you here
for His purpose.

God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful
life with Him in the present and gain
eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God,
He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps
His covenant and His lovingkindness** to
a thousandth generation with those who
love Him and keep His commandments
— Deuteronomy 7:9*

God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us
from Him.

*Everyone has sinned and is far away from
God's saving presence. — Romans 3:23*

God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for
us to be reconciled to Him: through His
son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the
cross for our sins and be raised to life for
eternity.

*But God demonstrates His own love
toward us, in that while we were yet
sinners, Christ died for us. Much more
then, having now been justified by His
blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of
God through Him. — Romans 5:8*

*I am the way, and the truth, and the life;
no one comes to the Father but through
Me. — John 14:6*

God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we
are forgiven of our sins and saved from
eternal death.

*For God so loved the world, that He gave
His only begotten Son, that whoever
believes in Him shall not perish, but have
eternal life. — John 3:16*

*For by grace you have been saved through
faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift
of God; not as a result of works, so that no
one may boast. — Ephesians 2:8-9*

Would you like to place your faith in Jesus Christ today?

Lord Jesus, I need You. I confess that I
am a sinner. I believe that You died on
the cross to pay for all my sins. With Your
help, I will turn away from my sins. Please
come into my life and be my Savior and
my Master. I accept Your gift of eternal
life. Make me the kind of new person You
want me to be. Thank You for giving me
eternal life. Amen.

God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life
when you trust in Jesus.

*And the testimony is this, that God has
given us eternal life, and this life is in His
Son. He who has the Son has the life; he
who does not have the Son of God does
not have the life. These things I have
written to you who believe in the name of
the Son of God, so that you may know that
you have eternal life. — 1 John 5:11-13*



Services at the CCF Center




Saturdays

4:00 PM
6:30 PM

Sundays

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN,
and 3:00 PM

Sunday Livestreams

 ccf.org.ph  [ccfmain](https://www.facebook.com/ccfmain)  [ccfmainTV](https://www.youtube.com/ccfmainTV)
9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

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Go to ccf.org.ph/chronicle/ to download this Chronicle.