



## WEEK THREE - JUNE 2018 - KINDERGARTEN/FIRST

**Bible Story:** *Clip My Hair • Judges 13-16*

**Bottom Line:** *God is stronger than anyone*

**Memory Verse:** *"I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." - Psalm 27:13 NIV*

**Life App:** *Confidence - Living like you believe what God says is true.*

**Basic Truth:** *I can trust God no matter what.*

**Summary:** There's an important story about honesty throughout the book of Judges 13-16. From the start, Samson was set apart to lead God's people. His life had many ups and downs as he tried to live from his own strength, but ultimately his confidence in God allowed him to carry out the plan for his life.

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**8:50-9:00 | 10:20-10:30 | 11:50-12:00 - EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES**

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### **1. Early Arriver Idea**

*Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

**What You Need:** N/A

**What You Do:**

- Welcome the kids to your group and use a couple minutes to ask about their week (highs/lows)
- Ask a series of "Which is stronger?" questions like the ones below. Kids can vote by pretending to be the stronger animal.
- Which is stronger:
  - A mouse or a moose?
  - A hamster or a horse?
  - A jaguar or a jellyfish?
  - A worm or a walrus?
  - A goose or a gorilla?
  - A chicken or a cheetah?
  - A bee or a bear?
  - A dog or a donkey?
  - A llama or a lion?
- Ask: "If you could be any kind of strong animal, which animal would you be? Why?"

### **2. Burly Beasties**

*Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery*

**What You Need:** "Burly Beasties" Activity Cards; tape

**What You Do:**

- Guide kids to sit in a tight circle.
- Tape a "Burly Beasties" card to each child's back. (Shh! Be sure the kids keep each picture a secret!)
- Lead the group to mingle around the room. Call out a riddle below, leading kids to gather around the child whose animal answers the riddle.
- When all the kids are gathered around that child, encourage him to guess what animal he is. (Provide additional clues if necessary.)
  - Elephant: I live in grasslands, and I live in forests. My skin is thick and tough. I have large ears and a long trunk. Who am I?

- Rhinoceros: I live in grasslands, and I live in forests. My skin is thick and tough, and it can be colored gray. I have four legs and small ears. I also have one or more horns. Who am I?
  - Gorilla: I live in forests, and I can climb trees. I have arms and legs, but I often walk on my feet and knuckles. You might see me pound my chest to show how strong I am or to tell my family to follow me. Who am I?
  - Grizzly Bear: I have shaggy fur, four legs, and very long claws. I live in the woods. I eat berries, nuts, fish, and many other things. I'm usually brown. Who am I?
  - Tiger: I live in the jungle, and I can climb trees. I have a long tail, stripes, and I walk quietly on four paws. Who am I?
  - Polar Bear: I have white fur, four legs, and small ears. I live in very cold places, and I like to swim. Who am I?
  - Horse: I have four legs and a long tail. You might find me on a farm or ranch. I can pull heavy things, but you can also ride on my back. Who am I?
  - Hippopotamus: I have a large body, a big mouth, and big teeth, but my legs are short and my ears are small. I spend much of my day in the water to keep cool. Who am I?
  - Orca/Killer Whale: I have a large body and a large tail. I also have large teeth. I'm black and white, and I live in the ocean. Who am I?
  - Lion: I live in grasslands and I have a long tail. I have a loud roar that scares my enemies away! Who am I?
- Guide kids to move like that animal as they find the answer to your next riddle.

**What You Say:**

*"What do elephants and rhinoceroses and gorillas and bears and tigers and horses and hippos and orcas and lions have in common? (They're all big; they're all strong.) Yes! They're all VERY strong. [Transition] In Large Group, we'll hear about a person who was very strong. In fact, he was the strongest person EVER. Let's go learn more."*

**Lead your group to the Large Group area.**

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**9:10-9:45 | 10:40-11:15 | 12:10-12:45 - LARGE GROUP**

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**OVERVIEW:**

**Bottom Line:** *God is stronger than anyone.* "Believing that God is stronger than anyone can give us the confidence to put our trust in what He can do more than what we can do. We can only do so much on our own. We need God's help to accomplish God's plan for our lives."

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9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 SMALL GROUP

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## 1. Strong Samson

### [Bible Story Review]

*Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through drawing, building and designing*

**What You Need:** "Samson" cutouts; markers/crayons; yarn; tape; craft sticks

### What You Do:

- Briefly review the story as you give each child a "Strong Samson" figure. Be sure to touch on the following key points:
  - God sent an angel to tell Samson's mother that she would have a son. The angel told her to never to cut his hair. His long hair would be a sign that he belonged to God.
  - God's spirit made Samson strong. He was so strong that he wrestled a lion and won. He was so strong that he fought 1,000 men in battle and won!
  - One day Samson told a woman named Delilah that the secret of his strength was that he never cut his hair.
  - Delilah had someone shave his head while he was asleep, and Samson's strength was gone.
  - Later, Samson remembered the true source of his strength: God!
  - One day, while the Philistines were making fun of Samson and worshipping their false God, Samson asked God to make him strong one more time, and He did. Samson pushed down two pillars of the temple and everyone died, including Samson.
- Invite kids to color their figures. Ask: "What's missing from our Samsons?" (His long hair!)
- Help each child count seven pieces of yarn and tape them to the back of Samson's head. Tell kids that Samson braided his hair into seven braids (Judges 16:13).
- Show kids how to tape their Samson figures to craft sticks to make puppets.
- Invite kids to use the puppets to tell their favorite part of the story.

### What You Say:

*"Samson was VERY strong. But who gave Samson his strength? Yes, God did. God was the One who made Samson so strong.*

*"God is stronger than anyone or anything. What are some things God has done that show how strong He is? (He made the world; He parted the Red Sea; He healed people.) Yes! Since God is stronger than anyone or anything, can He help you when you have troubles? (Yes!) Yes, He can! Whether you have a problem at school, a problem in your family, a*

*problem with a friend, or any problem at all, God can help you. He loves you, and He is stronger than anyone. So the thing to give you confidence today is this: [Bottom Line] **God is stronger than anyone!***

## **2. Strong Minds**

### **[Application Activity]**

*Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines & working as a group*

**What You Need:** "Strong Minds" Activity Page cards; "Memory Verse Motions" Activity Page

### **What You Do:**

- Guide kids to get into teams of two or three.
- Give each team a set of cards and then guide them to put the cards in order, dominoes-style. (Cards go left to right. Place cards that have corresponding numbers of dots next to each other. For example: One card has four dots on the left and one dot on the right, so to the left of that card, you would put a card that has four dots on the right. And to the right of that original card, you would put a card that has one dot on the left.)
- You may want to show kids how to put the first couple of cards in order, and then let them go off of your example.
- When every team finishes, help kids say the verse together.
- End by leading kids to say the verse while doing the motions they learned last week (see the "Memory Verse Motions" Activity Page). After each repetition, encourage kids to strike a "strong man" pose.

### **What You Say:**

*"How did Samson see God's goodness? (God made Samson strong; when Samson remembered God, God made him strong again.) Samson had good and bad times in his life, but when Samson chose to trust in God, God's strength allowed him to do amazing things. Can YOU trust God? (Pause.) Yes! [Bottom Line] **God is stronger than anyone!**"*

## **3. Pray & Dismiss**

### **[Prayer Activity]**

*Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application*

**What You Need:** N/A

### **What You Do:**

- Use the conversation below as a guide to lead kids into prayer.

**What You Say:**

*"Who's the strongest person you can think of right now? Is it your dad? A character in a video game? A superhero? God is WAY stronger than all of them! [Bottom Line] **God is stronger than anyone!** He's so strong that He created the whole world and everything in it. He's so strong that He brought his only Son back from the dead!"*

*"Since God is so strong and since He loves you so much, can you trust Him when you have a problem? (Pause.) Yes, you can! So whenever you have a problem, ask God to help you. He loves you more than anyone and He is stronger than anyone. Let's pray."*

*"Dear God, thank You that we can trust You no matter what. Thank You that You love us more than we can imagine and that You are stronger than we can imagine. Help us rely on Your strength instead of on our own strength when we have problems. Thank You that You love us and that You will help us. We love You, Lord. You are SO good. Amen."*

*As adults arrive to pick up, ask kids, "Who is stronger than anyone? (God!) Yes, [Bottom Line] God is stronger than anyone!"*