

BELIEVE - WEEK 2: THROUGH CHRIST ... I AM STRONG!

February 28, 2010

*I can do all things through Christ **who gives me strength.*** Phil. 4:13

He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Cor. 12:9-10

If we are only as strong as our weakest link...what is yours?



Samson's Story: Judges 13-16

- He was separated as a Nazarite yet, drawn into wrong relationships.
- He was a man of such great strength and yet, weak in resistance
- He was filled with God's spirit and yet, hungered after an inner appetite
- He began with such great possibilities and ended with such sad realities

The sobering reality is that the choice to honour and serve God or pursue our own selfish wants is not up to GodIt's ours!

Samson's Weakness

1. He chose his own lust rather than obeying the law (14:1)
2. He chose rebellion rather than accepting relationship. (14:2-3)
3. He chose his passions rather than purity. (16:1)
4. He chose the comfort of compromise rather than the conviction of righteousness. (16:4)

The Results

He lost his vantage -16:17-19 (Sin will find you out)

So he told her everything. ...When Delilah saw that he had told her everything ... So the rulers of the Philistines returned with the silver in their hands. Having put him to sleep on her lap, she called a man to shave off the seven braids of his hair, and so began to subdue him. And his strength left him.

He lost his vision - (Sin will blind you out)

Then the Philistines seized him, gouged out his eyes and took him down to Gaza...vs21

He lost his vitality - 16:20-21 - (Sin will bind you out)

Binding him with bronze shackles ...vs.21

He lost his victory - (Sin will grind you out)

They set him to grinding in the prison...vs.21

Lessons That Strengthen Our Lives

A Lesson about Reluctance

A Lesson about Ridicule

A Lesson about Repentance

A Lesson about Restoration

But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint. Is. 40:31

