

SAMSON FIGHTS THE PHILISTINES

Judges 15:1-17

Judges 15

¹Later on, at the time of wheat harvest, Samson took a young goat and went to visit his wife. He said, "I'm going to my wife's room." But her father would not let him go in.

²"I was so sure you thoroughly hated her," he said, "that I gave her to your friend. Isn't her younger sister more attractive? Take her instead."

³Samson said to them, "This time I have a right to get even with the Philistines; I will really harm them."⁴ So he went out and caught three hundred foxes and tied them tail to tail in pairs. He then fastened a torch to every pair of tails, ⁵lit the torches and let the foxes loose in the standing grain of the Philistines. He burned up the shocks and standing grain, together with the vineyards and olive groves.

⁶When the Philistines asked, "Who did this?" they were told, "Samson, the Timnite's son-in-law, because his wife was given to his friend."

So the Philistines went up and burned her and her father to death. ⁷Samson said to them, "Since you've acted like this, I won't stop until I get my revenge on you."⁸ He attacked them viciously and slaughtered many of them. Then he went down and stayed in a cave in the rock of Etam.

⁹The Philistines went up and camped in Judah, spreading out near Lehi. ¹⁰The men of Judah asked, "Why have you come to fight us?"

"We have come to take Samson prisoner," they answered, "to do to him as he did to us."

¹¹Then three thousand men from Judah went down to the cave in the rock of Etam and said to Samson, "Don't you realize that the Philistines are rulers over us? What have you done to us?"

He answered, "I merely did to them what they did to me."

¹²They said to him, "We've come to tie you up and hand you over to the Philistines."

Samson said, "Swear to me that you won't kill me yourselves."

¹³"Agreed," they answered. "We will only tie you up and hand you over to them. We will not kill you." So they bound him with two new ropes and led him up from the rock. ¹⁴As he approached Lehi, the Philistines came toward him shouting. The Spirit of the LORD came upon him in power. The ropes on his arms became like charred flax, and the bindings dropped from his hands. ¹⁵Finding a fresh jawbone of a donkey, he grabbed it and struck down a thousand men.

¹⁶Then Samson said,

"With a donkey's jawbone
I have made donkeys of them.
With a donkey's jawbone
I have killed a thousand men."

¹⁷When he finished speaking, he threw away the jawbone; and the place was called Ramath Lehi.

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| POSSIBLE POINTS | MY POINTS | QUESTIONS |
|-----------------|-----------|---|
| 5 | | 1.) What did Samson do to get even with the Philistines? (Verses 4-5) |
| 5 | | 2.) What did the Philistines do to Samson's wife and father-in-law? |
| 5 | | 3.) After Samson got free from being tied up, what did he do? |
| 5 | | 4.) Why do you think Samson was so upset? |

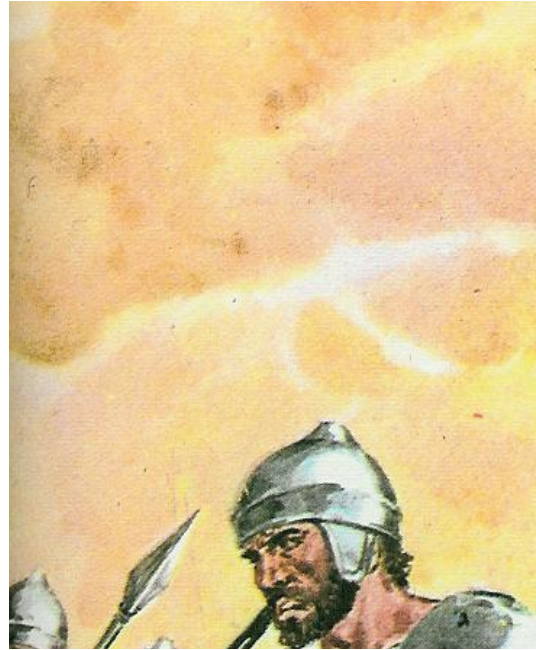
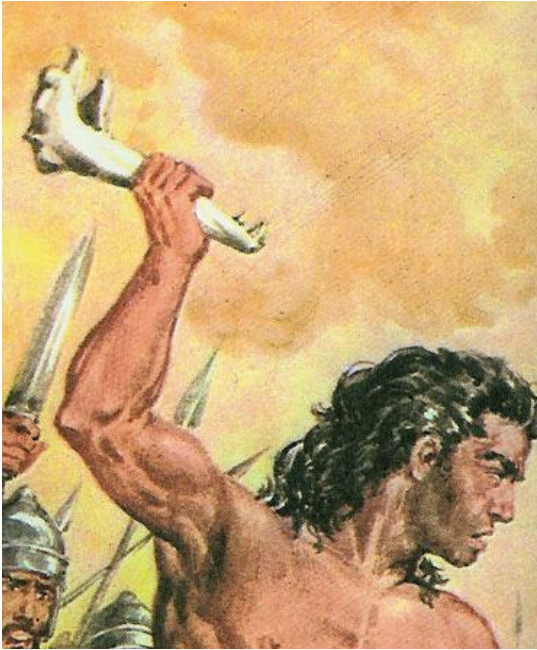
| POSSIBLE POINTS | MY POINTS | MEMORY VERSE |
|-----------------|-----------|--|
| 10 | | <p>“Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Psalm 35:1</p> |

| POSSIBLE POINTS | MY POINTS | HOME CONNECTION | PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE |
|-----------------|-----------|--|---------------------------|
| 5 | | <i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i> | |
| 5 | | <i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i> | |
| 10 | | <i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i> | |

| TOTAL POINTS | CLUB CONNECTION |
|--------------|---|
| | LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE ___/___/___ |

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Judges 15:1-17



Samson kills a thousand men with the jawbone of a donkey

SAMSON FIGHTS THE PHILISTINES

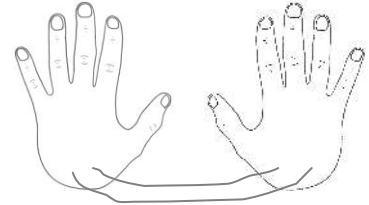
Judges 15:1-17

CRAFT/ACTIVITY: TIED UP HANDS

Students will make hands to tie together to remind them that Samson's hands were bound with two new ropes when he was handed over to the Philistines.

MATERIALS

1. 67 Lb. White Cardstock
2. Hands Pattern
3. Crayons, Markers, or Colored Pencils
4. Scissors
5. Yarn
6. Hole Punch



DIRECTIONS

1. Make a copy of the "Hands Pattern" onto 67 lb. cardstock for each student.
2. Have students color the two hands.
3. Allow students to cut out the two hands.
4. Pass out two (2) pieces of yarn cut in 12" lengths.
5. Help students punch two (2) holes in each hand.
6. Tie the two (2) pieces of yarn from one hand to the other.

FOR DISCUSSION

As students are coloring their hands, help them realize that Samson was handed over to the Philistines by his own people. They bound him with ropes before the Spirit of the Lord came upon Samson in power and Samson escaped, found the jawbone of a donkey and used it to kill a thousand Philistine men.

TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:

Approximately 15 minutes

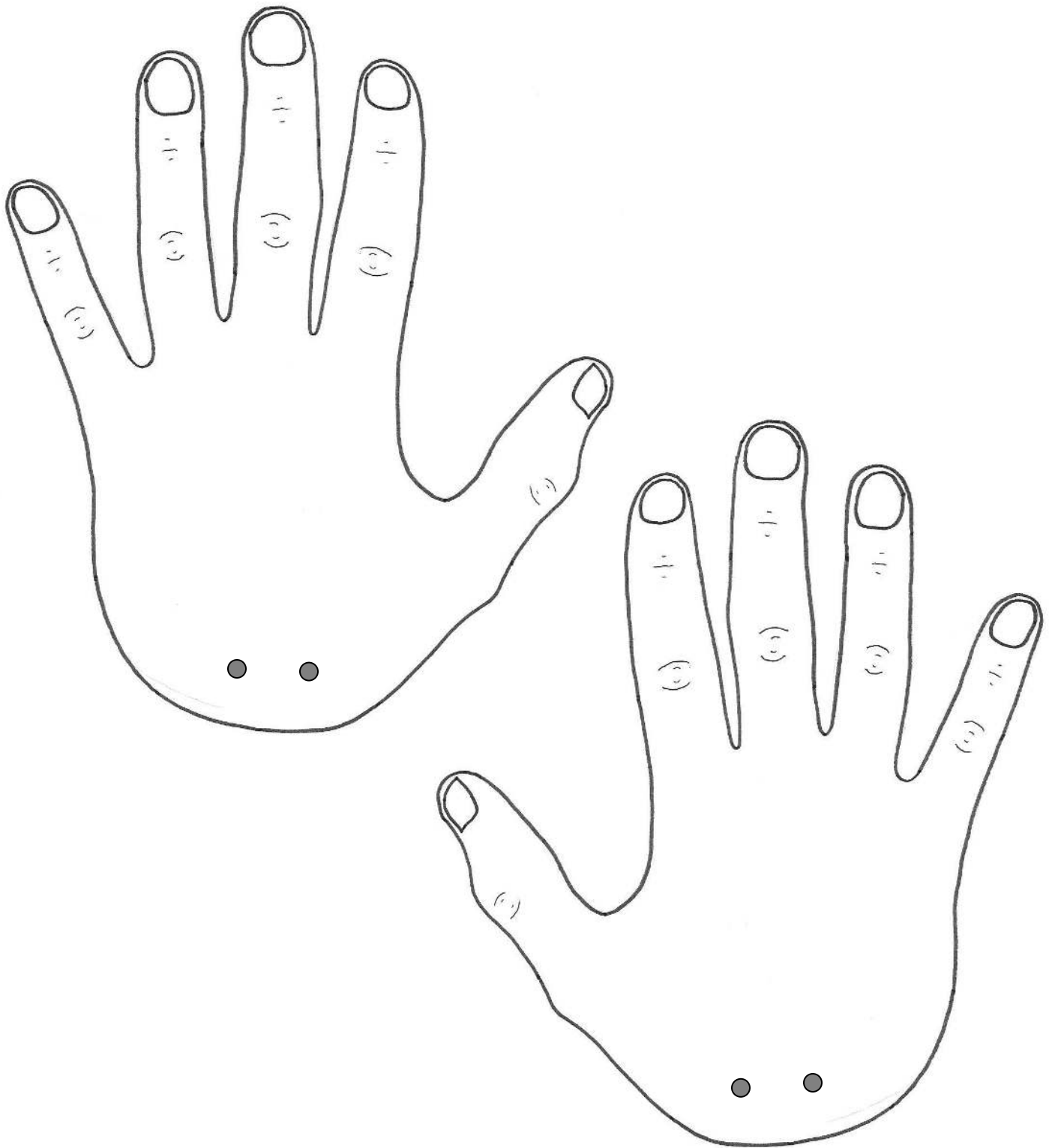
MEMORY VERSE

"Contend, O Lord, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me." Psalm 35:1

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HANDS PATTERN



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Today's bible story was about _____

I learned that I should

The memory verse means



Memory Verse:

“Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me.”

Psalm 35:1

THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON JUDGES 15:1-17

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Yesterday, Samson was spotted on his way over to see his wife. Her father thought Samson hated her so he gave her to Samson's friend.

One witness saw just how angry Samson got. Samson couldn't believe that his wife was given to another man!

In his anger, Samson appeared to be getting even with the Philistines. He caught 300 foxes and tied them tail to tail in pairs. Then he tied on burning torches and sent them running into the Philistines' fields. What a fire that was!

The Philistines were very angry so they burned Samson's wife and her father.

3,000 men came to Samson to tie him up and give him over to the Philistines. Off they marched him to the Philistines.

When Samson got close to the Philistines, the ropes broke off. Samson reached to the ground and picked up a jawbone from a donkey.

"I couldn't believe my eyes," said a witness, "Samson killed 1,000 men with a jawbone!"

For more details, please read Judges 15:1-17 in your Bible.

QUESTIONS

1. Why was Samson's wife given to another man?
2. What did Samson do to show he was upset with the Philistines?
3. What did Samson do with a donkey bone?
4. How do you think the Philistines felt about Samson?

MEMORY VERSE

"Contend, O Lord, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me."

Psalm 35:1

TRUE OR FALSE?

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | F | Samson was married to a Philistine. |
| <input type="radio"/> | F | Samson's wife was given away. |
| <input type="radio"/> | F | 3,000 men gave Samson money. |
| <input type="radio"/> | F | Samson burned the Philistine's fields. |
| <input type="radio"/> | F | Samson killed 1,000 men with a jawbone. |
| <input type="radio"/> | F | Samson was angry with the Philistines. |