



**WPA**

**Let's TALK**

**ADDICTIONS**

<sup>4</sup> Some time later, he fell in love with a woman in the Valley of Sorek whose name was Delilah.

<sup>5</sup> The rulers of the Philistines went to her and said, “See if you can lure him into showing you the secret of his great strength and how we can overpower him so we may tie him up and subdue him. Each one of us will give you eleven hundred shekels of silver.”

**Judges 16:4-22**

<sup>6</sup> So Delilah said to Samson, “Tell me the secret of your great strength and how you can be tied up and subdued.” <sup>7</sup> Samson answered her, “If anyone ties me with seven fresh bowstrings that have not been dried, I’ll become as weak as any other man.” <sup>8</sup> Then the rulers of the Philistines brought her seven fresh bowstrings that had not been dried, and she tied him with them.

**Judges 16:4-22**

<sup>9</sup> With men hidden in the room, she called to him, “Samson, the Philistines are upon you!” But he snapped the bowstrings as easily as a piece of string snaps when it comes close to a flame. So the secret of his strength was not discovered.

<sup>10</sup> Then Delilah said to Samson, “You have made a fool of me; you lied to me. Come now, tell me how you can be tied.”

**Judges 16:4-22**

<sup>11</sup> He said, “If anyone ties me securely with new ropes that have never been used, I’ll become as weak as any other man.” <sup>12</sup> So Delilah took new ropes and tied him with them. Then, with men hidden in the room, she called to him, “Samson, the Philistines are upon you!” But he snapped the ropes off his arms as if they were threads.

**Judges 16:4-22**

<sup>13</sup> Delilah then said to Samson, “All this time you have been making a fool of me and lying to me. Tell me how you can be tied.” He replied, “If you weave the seven braids of my head into the fabric on the loom and tighten it with the pin, I’ll become as weak as any other man.” So while he was sleeping, Delilah took the seven braids of his head, wove them into the fabric

**Judges 16:4-22**

<sup>14</sup> and tightened it with the pin. Again she called to him, “Samson, the Philistines are upon you!” He awoke from his sleep and pulled up the pin and the loom, with the fabric. <sup>15</sup> Then she said to him, “How can you say, ‘I love you,’ when you won’t confide in me? This is the third time you have made a fool of me and haven’t told me the secret of your great strength.”

**Judges 16:4-22**

<sup>16</sup> With such nagging she prodded him day after day until he was sick to death of it. <sup>17</sup> So he told her everything. “No razor has ever been used on my head,” he said, “because I have been a Nazirite dedicated to God from my mother’s womb. If my head were shaved, my strength would leave me, and I would become as weak as any other man.”

**Judges 16:4-22**

<sup>18</sup> When Delilah saw that he had told her everything, she sent word to the rulers of the Philistines, “Come back once more; he has told me everything.” So the rulers of the Philistines returned with the silver in their hands. <sup>19</sup> 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 16:4-22**

<sup>20</sup> 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.

<sup>21</sup> 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 grain in the prison. <sup>22</sup> But the hair on his head began to grow again after it had been shaved.

**Judges 16:4-22**

**While we may be tempted  
to view addiction exclusively  
as a sickness, addictions are  
self-inflicted as you open the  
door to sin in your life**

**Addictions form when we are  
enslaved and we surrender our  
allegiance to another master  
other than Jesus Christ**

<sup>16</sup> Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?

**Romans 6:16**

<sup>15</sup> I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. <sup>16</sup> And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup> As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.

**Romans 7:15-25**

<sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing.  
<sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. <sup>21</sup> So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. <sup>22</sup> For in my inner being I delight in God's law;

**Romans 7:15-25**

<sup>23</sup> but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me.

<sup>24</sup> What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?

**<sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!**

**Romans 7:15-25**

**Addiction is as much spiritual  
as it is chemical, physical and  
emotional**

**1) ADDICTION WILL  
STEAL YOUR  
SECRET STRENGTH**

<sup>4</sup> Some time later, he fell in love with a woman in the Valley of Sorek whose name was Delilah.

<sup>5</sup> The rulers of the Philistines went to her and said, “See if you can lure him into showing you the secret of his great strength and how we can overpower him so we may tie him up and subdue him.

**Judges 16:4-6**

Each one of us will give you eleven hundred shekels of silver.”<sup>6</sup> So Delilah said to Samson, “Tell me the secret of your great strength and how you can be tied up and subdued.”

**Judges 16:4-6**

**Samson's strength was based  
on being set apart unto God  
from birth for His purposes**

“You are not your own; <sup>20</sup> you were bought at a price. Therefore honour God with your bodies.”

**Romans 6:19-20**

**The enemy's tactic is to entrap us in addiction so that we will be rendered powerless in God's purposes. Refuse to exchange your strength for weakness.**

“Tell me the secret of your great strength and how you can be tied up and subdued.”

**Judges 16:6**

<sup>13</sup> No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to [humankind].

**1 Corinthians 10:13**

**It is time for us as a church  
to call the addicted back to  
the Lord so that they can  
rediscover their secret strength**

**Instead of giving away your secret strength for the enemy's purposes, what would it mean if you set apart your secret strength for God purposes?**

**2) ADDICTION WILL  
LULL YOU TO  
SPIRITUAL SLEEP**

<sup>7</sup> Samson answered her, “If anyone ties me with seven fresh bowstrings that have not been dried, I’ll become as weak as any other man.”  
<sup>8</sup> Then the rulers of the Philistines brought her seven fresh bowstrings that had not been dried, and she tied him with them. <sup>9</sup> With men hidden in the room, she called to him, “Samson, the Philistines are upon you!”

**Judges 16:7-15**

But he snapped the bowstrings as easily as a piece of string snaps when it comes close to a flame. So the secret of his strength was not discovered. <sup>10</sup> Then Delilah said to Samson, “You have made a fool of me; you lied to me. Come now, tell me how you can be tied.” <sup>11</sup> He said, “If anyone ties me securely with new ropes that have never been used, I’ll become as weak as any other man.”

**Judges 16:7-15**

<sup>12</sup> So Delilah took new ropes and tied him with them. Then, with men hidden in the room, she called to him, “Samson, the Philistines are upon you!” But he snapped the ropes off his arms as if they were threads. <sup>13</sup> Delilah then said to Samson, “All this time you have been making a fool of me and lying to me.

**Judges 16:7-15**

Tell me how you can be tied.” He replied, “If you weave the seven braids of my head into the fabric on the loom and tighten it with the pin, I’ll become as weak as any other man.” So while he was sleeping, Delilah took the seven braids of his head, wove them into the fabric <sup>14</sup> and tightened it with the pin. Again she called to him, “Samson, the Philistines are upon you!”

**Judges 16:7-15**

He awoke from his sleep and pulled up the pin and the loom, with the fabric. <sup>15</sup> Then she said to him, “How can you say, ‘I love you,’ when you won’t confide in me? This is the third time you have made a fool of me and haven’t told me the secret of your great strength.”

**Judges 16:7-15**

He will take the lead in delivering Israel from the hands of the Philistines.”

**Judges 13:5**

**Samson is not a man on the  
offence, but a man on defense**

**We need to become more mindful. We must slow down the speed of our decision-making and regain control of every choice we make.**

“Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and  
Christ will shine on you.”

**Ephesians 5:14**

**WAKE UP!**

**3) ADDICTION WILL  
LEAVE YOU WITH  
A SORROWFUL  
STORY**

<sup>16</sup> With such nagging she prodded him day after day until he was sick to death of it. <sup>17</sup> So he told her everything. “No razor has ever been used on my head,” he said, “because I have been a Nazirite dedicated to God from my mother’s womb. If my head were shaved, my strength would leave me, and I would become as weak as any other man.”

**Judges 16:16-22**

<sup>18</sup> When Delilah saw that he had told her everything, she sent word to the rulers of the Philistines, “Come back once more; he has told me everything.” So the rulers of the Philistines returned with the silver in their hands. <sup>19</sup> 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 16:16-22**

<sup>20</sup> 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.

<sup>21</sup> 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 grain in the prison. <sup>22</sup> But the hair on his head began to grow again after it had been shaved.

**Judges 16:16-22**

**A) SAMSON LOST  
THE SPIRIT**

Then the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully  
upon him.

**Judges 14:5; 14:19; 15:14**

He did not know that the LORD had left him.

**Judges 16:20**

**We do not know what we had  
until we lose it**

**B) SAMSON LOST  
HIS SIGHT**

<sup>29</sup> If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup> And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

**Matthew 5:29-30**

**C) SAMSON LOST HIS  
FREEDOM & LIFE**

<sup>28</sup> Then Samson prayed to the LORD, “Sovereign LORD, remember me. Please, God, strengthen me just once more.

**Judges 16:28**

**“Sin will take you further than you wanted to go, keep you longer than you wanted to stay and cost you more than you wanted to pay.”**

**- John Maxwell -**



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