

**JUDGES | PLAYING WITH FIRE**  
**JUDGES 14:1-15:20**

In chapter 13, we read about the Angel of the Lord announcing Samson's birth to his mother and his father Manoah. He is to be consecrated to the Lord, a deliverer of Israel, born to faithful, praying parents by a miracle of God. All those things are true, yet they cannot prepare us for who Samson is and what we see in the next few chapters. We encounter a selfish, egotistical, lustful, angry, avenging loner. Still God uses him and empowers him to begin the deliverance of God's people. What do we learn about human flaws and the ability of God to accomplish His will despite them?

1. When we care more for what is right in our eyes than God's eyes there are inevitable consequences and much pain.
2. God is not limited in who He uses to accomplish His purposes, and He will take the opportunity to accomplish His will even when we're out of it.
3. When we play with sin, it leads to us harming others, others harming us, and consequences like betrayal and loneliness.
4. Ultimately our thirst should lead us to God because He is the only one who can sustain us and empower us with His Spirit.