



GROW. PRAY. SERVE.

**SERIES: Relationships—Gaining Traction in Our Relationships**

*Message: “You’re On Hell Date”*

**PRAYER:** God, we pray for wisdom, courage and discernment to make the right decisions in all our relationships. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

**ICEBREAKER:** What is the best or worst date you have ever had?

**INTRODUCTION:** Samson had a tragic dating history and just like him, the people in our lives greatly influence where we end up and can introduce us to fatal distractions. If direction determines destination, then people influence our direction.

**GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Judges 16. Growing up, what friend(s) of yours were your parents not thrilled about? Did you persist in seeing him/her? What was the best thing your parents ever gave you?
2. Read Judges 14. Why did Samson’s parents object to his choice for a wife? What is one area where you haven’t seen “eye to eye” with your parents? Education, dating, religion, politics, vocation, friends? How can you relate to this story, rather now or in the past? Are or were you attracted to the wrong kind of people?
3. In your life, where would you like to experience more self-control? Who are some of the “PROTECTOR people” God has placed in your life? Is God using you as a “PROTECTOR person” in someone’s life? What was Samson’s downfall? His sexual desires? His attraction? His inability to keep his secret? His overconfidence? Delilah’s betrayal? His betrayal of God’s calling?
4. What motivated Samson in this relationship? What motivated Delilah? Which of Samson’s problems can you relate to? Being controlled by physical desires? Falling to manipulators? Facing dilemmas about totally honest? Making the same mistake repeatedly? Getting hurt or betrayed by someone close to you? Feeling that I have broken a vow or commitment?
5. Are there some “POISONOUS people” in your life that are manipulating and misguiding you? How can this group pray for you now and in this upcoming week?

**CHALLENGE:** What is the secret of your spiritual strength? Is it regular prayer, Bible reading, awareness of my weaknesses, a Christian upbringing or something else? When do you feel the weakest against temptation? When it’s subtle or when it’s persistent? When it’s particularly attractive or seems reasonable? When it’s something new or when it’s the same old thing? Take time to pray about that right now.

**CHAMPION TIP:** Pray for each of your group members, especially those who are dating.