

A Common Tragic Story

(Inspired by Chris Brown)

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Judges 14-16 NLT (*Samson's story*)

Judges 13:1-5

"Again the Israelites did evil in the Lord's sight, so the Lord handed them over to the Philistines, who oppressed them for forty years. ²In those days a man named Manoah from the tribe of Dan lived in the town of Zorah. His wife was unable to become pregnant, and they had no children. ³The angel of the Lord appeared to Manoah's wife and said, 'Even though you have been unable to have children, you will soon become pregnant and give birth to a son. ⁴So be careful; you must not drink wine or any other alcoholic drink nor eat any forbidden food. ⁵You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and his hair must never be cut. For he will be dedicated to God as a Nazirite from birth. He will begin to rescue Israel from the Philistines.'"

One big Thought: Don't be common

How to justify our way into a trap:

- Assume that success always outweighs small sins.
- Confuse God's patience with His pleasure.
- Equate giftedness with the work of the Holy Spirit.
- Walk/run into the enemy's territory with confidence.

Four lessons:

1. Success is a setup for failure.
2. It's no longer the act that destroys a reputation, simply the accusation.
3. Being in the wrong place at the wrong time is not a sin, but it is stupid/(Unwise).

Proverbs 12:1

4. We have to care about avoiding the stupid/(Unwise).

The right question: What am I willing to do to protect God's work in and through me?

The wrong question: How close to the edge can I go?

Social Media:

Avoiding the accusation: