

**Series Character Matters****Passage** Judges 16:19-31**Title** The Tenacious Grace of God**Speaker:** Dave Menard 03/05/2017

Discussion Starter: What are some examples you can share with the group of God's tenacious grace in your life?

Sanctification Lost (Judges 16:19-24; Luke 6:29-31)

- Samson has lost his sanctification as a result of his indulging in his flesh. Samson is lulled to sleep by sin. The consequence of this lifestyle has led him to be tortured, blinded, and in bondage. What lesson do we learn here about God's grace? As Christians living in the New Testament times do you think we can lose our sanctification? Explain your thoughts with the group.
- Why do you think the Philistines did not kill Samson?
- We learned that the Nazarite vow was usually done for a specified period of time. At the end of the specified time of their vow the hair was to be shaven and given to the LORD as an offering. In your own words describe the effect of Samson allowing his hair to be shaven off and given to the enemy instead of God?
- What is the symbolism of Samson's hair beginning to grow back in Judges 16:22? How does this verse relate or tie into Jesus' command to Christians of turning the other cheek in Luke 6:29-31? In what way is this an example of God's tenacious grace in Samson's life?

Humanity is Against God (Judges 16:25-27)

- What is the significance of the gathering of the Philistines all in one place and how does this play into God's plan?

With God Our Situation is Never Hopeless (Judges 16:28-31)

- How do we see God's tenacious grace being revealed as Samson makes one last prayer request?
- What is the object lesson in Samson's prayer life? In his moral life? In his death Judges 16:30?
- If you could pray (as Samson did) for one thing to happen- what would that be?

Ways of Knowing God has Your Heart (John 14:21)

- We know that God wants us to love Him and trust Him with our lives. Samson seemed to fall pretty short of both of these areas in his life until the end. We learned about three distinct evidences of knowing God has our hearts: 1> Humility- thinking of others above ourselves. 2> Teachable Spirit- listening to others opinions. 3> A Desire to Know and Obey God's word. In which of these three areas are you the strongest? Which area needs the most attention? How has this study encouraged you to live a more separated life to God?