

Computer Generated Transcript - We're going to be going into our message time now we started last week on this series of Sampson and we only only talked about a few verses yesterday we're going to cover a lot more ground in scripture today but really try and hit one theme but I want to go back last week and I just want to remind you Sampson before he was born there was a valve made for him biased parents right. Of the Lord appeared appeared to his parents and said I want him to be dedicated as an as a ring from the womb I want you in as a right I'm sorry from the womb I want you to to make that vow and his name so Samson the three rules of that are growing long hair not eating anything from a grape vine even grape skins nothing from the vine and not touching a dead body all right and so this is Sampson's three vows right that he makes to be what is considered a Nazarite in Scripture which is somebody who is not born into the priesthood not born into being a Levi You know you're not born into the family to be one of the leaders in the church so they make this Nazarite vow to dedicate themselves and so he does that and one of the things that we talked about is Sampson while most of us can't relate to some of the physical feats that Sampson was able to do most of us can relate to who Sampson is as a person Sampson is a man who to quote Craig Rochelle again he's a man with he's an incredibly strong man was an incredibly weak will all right and that's really who he is as a person as we see these things go on one of the things that I pointed out last week that I want you to keep in mind is it's going to come into play again huge today is there is no time in Sampson's. Sampson's beginning part of this story here where you see him turn to God I mean you see him have this Nazarite vow but everything that he. He does he does out of his own ideas out of his own mind right we never see a picture we don't see Gideon bowing the before God and asking God to give a sign or to speak to him or do we don't see those kind of things we see Samson make reactionary decisions and and now in those reactionary decisions God still works all right but like we talked about last week it's mostly in spite of Samson not because of the great things that Samson does but it's kind of in spite of what he does that God still works and God's spirit is still upon him and again and that brings me comfort because one of the things that I think that we can learn from Samson story is we don't have to be perfect to have the Spirit of God in us and working through us all right you don't have to have it all figured out first and there is maybe no better example in all of scripture than Samson for this right that God can use flawed people. And he will use flawed people but I'd really like it to be said of my life you know if you can look at the whole that God worked you know I worked with God God didn't have to work in spite of me right I'd prefer choice one there than choice two and so we're going to go into this and as we go into this I really want you to pay attention to something here I know that in this place if we took a rough poll of everybody and we said What is the more emotional gender right people start talking I mean I hear female everywhere right I mean it's bouncing all over the place husband some of you are afraid to say it right and you're like you're thinking it but you're not going to say it out loud because you know you value having not bloody lips and black eyes when you get home you know and so so you but people just instinctively think that and why do we think that females are more more emotional. Because they are OK All right that's that's a bold plagal All right so the one I heard back there too is I think probably the most common one is that it's because they cry more OK because they cry more and for most of us guys when we think of the word emotion what we think of is crying right we think of crying and that's that's emotion now I want to point this out before we start reading this section of scripture that I believe Sampson may be the most emotional person in all of Scripture. Not in the ways that we think of it right not not in not in like he's not a whiner he's not a crier but he is incredibly emotional. And as we go through this I want you to really pay attention to this because most of us when we make decisions based off of emotion we make bad decisions. Right if your primary like reasoning ability to make a big life decision is is out of emotion most of us really don't fare will real well with the results of that but most guys again we kind of exclude ourselves when we don't make decisions out of emotion. And I would tell you that I think the Sam the story of Sampson really counteracts that ideology really counteracts that thought process and I want you to pay attention as we read through I'm not going to read it all verbatim but we're going to go through two chapters of judges today we're going to start in Judges chapter fourteen which is kind of where we

start or where we landed last week and we're going to start at this the beginning of this OK judges chapter fourteen. Judges chapter fourteen judges in the Old Testament if you're not familiar with your Bible at all Joshua Judges Ruth you know it's kind of where it starts if you get to first and second Samuel or Psalms and proverbs you've gone too far and you've got to turn back more toward the front of the book just to try and help you find out where that is that our judges chapter fourteen All right we're going to read through the beginning part of this and then we're going to start to skip a little bit but I want to tell you where we're at oh really before I start reading that anybody check last week I had talked about how I didn't see on a on a quick glance last week if if everyone didn't is right when his own eyes if that happened before Sampson or if you only see it after Did anybody actually looked up. You know all right good homework good I did and I still don't see it before this I don't see every bit but he did what was right in their own eyes before Sampson again I'm not going to try and sit here and say that it absolutely doesn't occur but I don't see it before him OK the first time I see this is after after Sampson and I believe he's kind of sets the tone for a lot of that but say a judge's chapter fourteen one day when Sampson wasn't him one of the Philistine woman caught his eye when he returned home he told his father and mother a young Philistine woman Timna caught my eye I want to marry her go get her for me now let's be honest let's stop right there. Is this a well thought through decision or is this an emotional decision. This is a motional decision she looks good I water good or. This is not reasoned out this is an emotional decision all right she is pleasing to my I.I. whatever whatever your translation says right there there is only one thought process going through Sampson's head right here there's a pretty lady she's all I can think about right now mom and dad go get her for me. Which is funny on a number of levels to me I mean it's sad to me the value that women had in the culture back here that's not funny but one of the funny things to me about this story is doesn't Sampson seem like just a frustrating teenager. I want to go get it make it happen right I mean. I'm old now my twentieth year reunion for high school graduation is the summer OK And so that officially moves me into old man status OK so I know somebody like my sixty if it's next year I'm not saying I'm older than you I'm just saying I don't think I can consider myself a young anymore all right no matter what happens in hockey showed me that yesterday too I kind of want to just you know fall into a puddle as I'm standing up here today but. I look at this and I think you know. If I would talk to my dad this way Dad I want this go get it for me. When I came to. He would have been standing over me with his finger in my face laughing like this is not how things work in our home all right but Sampson is spoiled he is he is self-centered right he sees a pretty lady mom and dad I know that that's part of the culture young man would see a woman that he was interested in he would go talk to his parents and they would start to arrange the dowry and all of those kind of things that came with this I mean I get that but I don't think most people would have said go getter. Right like this is a man who is making a decision based out of emotion and he's only thing I'm a self then as we talked about last week if you missed it you can go back and look his parents say this is a bad idea Sampson. She is not of the same faith is us this is not what is best for you Sampson was given a very good very Godly advice. And what's he do you. He completely ignores it. Right and he just says go get her for me again he repeats it she looks good to me and it goes into the saying that you know that his parents didn't realize that the Lord was using this and all this stuff but again it doesn't say his parents didn't realize that this is what was best for Samson and the nation of Israel under the authority of God It just says God's going to use it right just like we talked about last week God works in spite of Sampson's emotional decision here but he makes a decision based on emotion we talk about it. We talk about this last week inversed. Live through verse seven he starts to walk to this this city this Philistine city and this young lion jumps out to attack them and it says the spirit of the Lord comes upon Samson at that moment and he rips the lion's jaws apart with his bare hands and I think it's funny when we talk about this he did it as easily as if it were a young goat that makes no sense to me you know what I mean because I don't think it would be that easy to just rip a young goat's jaws apart but apparently that's easy to do but he just rips this line of par with his bare hands kills it leaves it laying aside the road doesn't tell anybody right. And you can see so then they go. They talk to this lady they arrange the wedding in verse eight and he goes and

he steers off the path on his way to this town and he finds honeycomb in this deadline now some people would say that that means that this has been quite some time because bees wouldn't be in this lion right away making honey you know that this is been a while between these two things some people say that this is a violation of his Nazarite vow because he touches a dead body the body of a lion in my study I'm not trying to say I'm right but I really don't think that that's what that meant I really think that touching the dead body of this would. Be and if you go back and you look in that that portion of Scripture that we talked about in numbers last week. Really seems like it's pointing to human bodies not animals otherwise every Nazarite would have had to been you know vegetarian as well because they couldn't eat meat because that's part of the dead body. Whatever it doesn't really matter other than how you view whether or not he's breaking his Nazarite vow right here all right so they go they go down to this thing he goes in to make this marriage party and verse ten and his parents or the bride's parents see him they select thirty men from this town to be as companions I was a traditional thing these are kind of like his wedding party. They hang out now again this is tough to say but this word they throw a party here really indicates that this is like a seven day drunk fest OK that's that's really what this like traditionally would be this is seven days of eating lots of food drinking lots of wine and doing these things so a lot of people would look at this and say this is a violation of his vows we don't know that for sure because it doesn't say for sure all right it doesn't say Samson was drunk ever in this story we don't know again it's all just pre-supposition that we're guessing that way so I'm going to let you make up your own mind as to what you really think that means but Samson in verse twelve I want to talk about this Samson sitting he's surrounded by people you just killed a lion he's at his wedding party and in verse twelve these these men are around him and he says let me tell you a riddle if you solve my riddle during the seven days of celebration I will give you thirty fine linen robes and thirty sets of festive clothing but if you can't solve that then you must give me thirty fine linen robes and thirty sets of festive clothing is this a rational well thought out decision now this is really bad math to begin with right because if thirty guys all have to give him one set of clothing they all have to give up one set of clothing Sampson's got to go get thirty right I mean he's not very good at math here but what do you see with this riddle What do you see as you look at as if you look past just the riddle What is driving this. Pride. Really I'm smarter than you and I'm going to give you a riddle that I think you can't solve. Here you go. Private drives this thing. Right and he offers up this riddle this man and you can keep you can read it right here out of out of the one who eats came something to eat out of the Strong came something sweet that would mean nothing to you if you don't know the beginning of the story that he kills us lion and then they eat honey out of the lion right that makes sense because you know what just happened they didn't get that riddle means nothing right verse sixteen Here you go this is where most people see the emotion in the story and they don't ever pay attention to Sampson so Samson's wife came to him in tears obviously emotion right because she's crying you don't love me you hate me I'm not saying this lady is an emotional she has to OK. You've given my people a little but you haven't told me the answer I haven't even given the answer to my father or mother he replied Why should I tell you. Men. This is not the I know this is in the Bible but this isn't good advice for how to talk to your wife. This is this is not a lie don't put this one in the hopper. This is this is not good wisdom OK. Verse seventeen so she cried whenever she was with him and kept it up for the rest of the celebration at last on the seventh day he told her the answer because she was tormenting him with her nagging. Most of us can probably relate to this. Men and women alike right I'm not just saying that the women are all nadders of them most of us can relate to this right I mean this is kind of a relatable story you just get tired of the same old fight you get tired you know whatever it whatever look I mean this is this is real life commin people who is especially newlyweds they don't even know how to talk to each other yet he's just like I can tell my parents I want to tell you so for seven days she's crying and whining and nagging and then he just ha fine it's not a well thought out decision or is that an emotional decision. I know she's emotional but he doesn't respond rationally he responds with emotion right he responds to this negative emotion with negative emotion I mean and he tells her the answer. Now these people these thirty guys that have that the reason that she's

nagging him that the part that we skipped was these men don't want to give anything to Sampson this week Israel like All right so they actually go to his wife before this and says get the get the answer for us or we're going to burn your father's house down with you in it kind of an important detail right. You might be a little emotional if that's what happened you were going to burn you and everyone you love to the ground if you don't find us an answer to a riddle. Right so that happened so she goes and she gives him the answer right she goes and tells these thirty guys the answer. And they give the answer in Samson reply at the end of verse eighteen again I just want to say men. Don't ever say this to your spouse. He responds to these men who give him the answer if you hadn't plowed with my heifer in the Bible if you hadn't plowed with my half or you wouldn't have solved my riddle there's a number of things I could stop on this. But all I'm going to say is men don't call your wife a cow. Never a good move you're not going to win a bad move OK But is this a well thought out decision is this a well thought out statement or is this emotion. Saying agree she's betrayed he's frustrated and he says something really dumb. And then it goes to spirit or Lord comes upon him again he goes to another town and he just kills thirty people and takes their clothes This is not a well thought out decision. It actually says it the universe nineteen but said I mean he brings the clothing to the back of these men and Samson was furious about what had happened he went back to his home to live with his father mother's we've got a brand new wife but he's so tect that she said something he goes back home a little mom and dad right I mean emotion. Through every aspect of the story not to mention the fact that a mass murderer has just happened to this other town right I mean if that happened in Grand Rapids it would be all over the news and we would be trying to figure out who is killing people and stealing their clothes right again I'm the spirit of the Lord is on Samson and he's using Samson to do God's thing here but a lot of what's happening here doesn't say this is God's design it just says God is going to use Sampson. It is so important to keep this in mind as we go but so far. If we look at who is the most emotional person in this story what are we left with Sampson. In this isn't me trying to say that all men are more emotional all women are more emotional I'm just trying to say a lot of times we as men think of emotion only as crying. But there's a lot of emotion that's directing this man in Scripture. And it's really leading him into some stupid stuff OK so first chapter fifteen Now Samson you know during the week harvest he finally thinks yeah I'm going to take a present to my wife because I'm married and I'm tired of living with my parents. So he goes and actually what he really wants I mean if you've got kids in here if you don't want to hear this word cover real quick I'm going to my wife's room sleep with her right like he's married and he's living with his parents but really what he wants now is sex. OK that's that's really what it is so what her father would let her in I truly thought you must hater her father explained so I gave her in marriage to your best man. But look her younger sister is even more beautiful than she is. Marry her instead nothing like sibling rivalry right I mean nothing like just directly comparing your two daughters to each other in the ways that their beauty dads don't ever do that not a good call Sampson said verse three this time it's not my my fault for everything I'm going to do the Philistines. Is this a well calculated decision or is this an emotional decision. This is a motion this time it's not my fault you brought this on whatever just happened you brought upon yourself. OK He's talked they just gave his wife away to his best man. And he's mad so he goes out he catches three hundred foxes which the Bible doesn't tell us how that happened but that must have been quite a story all in and of itself OK catches three hundred foxes he ties their tails together he puts a torch in their tail and he sets it on fire and then he lets them run through the crops PETA melts down. Right but listen sometimes we just gloss right over that because we don't understand the culture but these guys have for ages if freezers has canning been invented yet no modern Canning has not been I mean they usually preserve meat with salt at this point in time but this is this is two thousand B.C. ish OK I mean this is this is way before this stuff has happened so when all your crops go up in flames that's a big deal because your food supply is no more it's not like you can just be like oh it's Who cares if you know Montana is on fire it doesn't really matter if all that we burn because we still have bread Wal-Mart. Right when the fields go up your food supply is gone. Sampson is angry so he goes in the weirdest way ever to destroy somebodies crops. And it says he burned all

their grain to the ground you can see this in verse five. Including the sheaves and the uncut grain that means the harvest this is harvest time OK the sheaves of the bundles they've already caught and collected and put together and the uncut grain is the stuff that still standing in the field and it's all gone OK it's all gone he also destroyed their vineyards and all of groves OK this is trade goods all of groves it's not even so much just about about the food of an all of the girls on the street but it's this is a tradable good this is how they make their oil this is how they do so much stuff I mean he destroys the economy of this area in a moment All right so versus who did this the Philistines demanded Samson was the reply because his father in law from Tim gave Sampson's wife to be married to his best man so the Philistines went and got the woman and her father and burned them to death that's cold. This lady and her father did nothing really but Samson made a decision. Born out of emotion that resulted in his wife and father in law being burned alive really that's what happened right person. Because of that because you did this Samson doubt I won't rest until I take my revenge on you. I'm not saying Samson is wrong for thinking that way but is this a really well thought out decision or is this another decision based on emotion it's another decision based off of emotion. Revenge anger so we tax the Philistines with great fear and killed many of them then he goes to live in a cave. In the Philistines retaliate by setting up camp and Judah the Philistines are the leaders the Philistines are the rulers over Israel they have conquered most of this nation OK and Sampson's been fighting them and so their response is all right you've got one guy that's killing some of us so we're going to get our army and we're going to park it in your back door. What are you going to do about that. OK that's the response to Sampson's emotions so far. So right the minute Judah in verse ten says what what is this all about why are you attacked they don't even know what's happening OK why are you talking to the Philistines replied we come to camp she said We come to capture Sampson come to pay him back for what he did to us. So three thousand min of Judah went down to get Samson. That's a funny number to me we got to go get Samson. We know he's kind of a hothead. So let's take three thousand people to go get one guy. OK. They find him in the cave they say to him Don't you realize that the Philistines rule over us like don't you get it you're putting the whole nation at risk why what are you doing to us but Sampson replied I only did to them what they did to me right we're talking about major maturity right here they started it by me won't stop touching me right across the line in the backseat right I only do to them what they did to me we've come to tell you up and you over Samson talks. Just promise me you WILL KILL ME TIME me up all you want. OK Just promise you won't kill me. Time up with new ropes and take him to Lehigh the Philistines come shouting in triumph I think they've got this in the bag now Samson's tied up it's an army of them there's one of Sampson finding him in this mess but the spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon Samson and he snapped the ropes of his arms as if they were burnt strands of flax that's a strength comparison I can relate to OK because burned grain I can snap that right I mean that's he snaps it as if nothing they fell from his wrists then he found the job own of a recently killed donkey. He picked it up and killed thousand Philistines with it there you go. That's his weapon this is a cast this is plaster OK I know it looks awesome because we have some talented artists in our church this is a plaster cast of an actual donkey job and I didn't realize how big a mouth the donkey has. I didn't realize that this thing has a perfect handle between its front teeth and its maulers right. And he picks it up he just kills a thousand people with it. Like that's all the detail we're given like it's no big deal he is killed thousand people. With a bone I mean this seems like you could be a pretty decent weapon I actually found out when I was trying to find a real one by the way it's really expensive to have a real bone shipped so that's why I got a plaster one. That people use a donkey job on for a musical instrument. And in some parts of the world it's actually still used as a weapon OK but he picks up some like this and it kills thousand people now. Lot of things about that to me that are pretty amazing the fact that you know one guy can stand in the middle of all those people and swing something like this kill a thousand people. I am going to go so far as to say he touched a dead body. And broke it down I'm also going to sit here and I'm going to say my brain and I have an active imagination. And I don't think it's weird for me I think a lot of people have broke imaginations OK like this just doesn't work right. But when I read something like he killed a thousand men by himself

I tend to think I understand what man number one and number two man number three even five six seven are thinking. There's thousands of us. There's one of him I don't understand what guy number one thousand is thinking at all by the time he's killed nine hundred people by him self I'm not trying to mess with that guy like you think he must be tired now. I got this. I don't I don't understand and if it wasn't the Bible I would say that's totally made up now I'm probably not going to sit here and say you killed exactly one thousand people you know what I mean they round. Numbers but he killed I believe hundreds and hundreds and hundreds in the nine hundred some maybe a few more than a thousand right with a job. In one day. The reason that this is so significant is because about what we're about to read the reason I'm landing on the SO HARD isn't to get you to focus on Sampson it's to get you to focus on the ridiculousness of the situation. Is there any way that one man can stand in the middle of a field and kill a thousand people with a job or no matter how fresh it was on their own no I know ramble makes us feel like that's possible right I know that that's how movies work right twelve strong as in theaters right the difference between those things and this is I mean I ramble was fake twelve strong is supposed to be based on reality so I'm not trying to minimize that story I'm just trying to say technology is pretty amazing. And when one side has better technology than the other side and has better training than the other side things tend to get lopsided quick Sampson didn't have better technology most of us would make a case that a donkey's job bone is worse technology than a sword right I mean I would if I had to choose between a sword and a donkey job oh no matter how fresh it was I would choose the sword every time this is ridiculous outside of the spirit of yet there is absolutely no way that the outcome is this without God in the mix and any rational person could see that right it's the same reason that when Gideon had his army guy was like nope too many people. Got to fin this army out because even though it's fifteen to one people might still look at you guys and say you were able to accomplish this so I'm going to drop it down to like one hundred to one or whatever the numbers were so that at the end of this battle when you win no one can say it's because you're awesome. All the glory goes to God The same principle should apply to this in any person who believes in God's mind there is no way that one man with a bone kills a thousand people out of his own still. There is no way this is straight up only possible through the Spirit of God and yet what Samson's response he sings a song about it. Or maybe just made a poem How do you want to say it. Verse sixteen. Then Samson said with the job own of a donkey I've piled them in heaps. With the job own of a donkey I've killed a thousand men. And you get a glimpse in the Bible into his heart this is in God in me OK because verse seventeen says when he finished his. Boasting what what's the emotion that's happening right now. He threw in the job own and the place was named job on Hill. When I stop there I know some of you are like you cheated. Because you already know what happens next we're coming to that next week. OK We're going to come back to that next week you can read ahead that's fine that's not cheating you can read ahead and see where we're going to go next week. But Sampson kills a thousand and one to Job own and is that what causes his heart to turn to God No it's not and even if you know what happens next you'd have to be honest and say it's not the victory that causes Sampson to turn it's hard to go talk about the next week. But his victory over a thousand men doesn't point him back to God or the Spirit of God in Him The Spirit of God that gives him the strength to do these things it's all about Sampson. So if you look at this basically what you see is pride anger jealousy repeated over and over again some other emotions that you might deal with or fear. Worry right. These are emotions and listen men. Stop thinking that you don't do what I know there's a lot of us in this church and particularly in our leadership team we joke about how we only have one feeling. Right don't hurt my feeling. But if we're honest we're all creatures of emotion. We just don't think of them we don't think of some emotions as emotional. Some emotions we think of as emotional and others we don't but I would wager that every single one of us in this room at some time has had to deal with the anger the emotion of anger I would wager that every single one of us in this room at some time in our life had to deal with the emotion of fear. I think that every one of us in this room would have to say if we were on us that we dealt with the emotion of jealousy I think everybody in this room at some point in time if they were honest would have to say they had to wrestle with the emotion of pride and I would

say that most of us if we made decisions out of those times when we were battling those emotions it didn't really go the way we hoped it would and it didn't really go real great for Samson. God worked in spite of him again. And God's purpose of beginning to overthrow the Philistines to set his people free it's beginning to happen but it's not because Sampson's awesome it's because God is awesome. It's not because Sampson is perfect. Is God using Samson in spite of his imperfections and like I said if you start to make a list of the most of the emotional people you see in scripture I think Sampson would have to be a toward the top of that list if you really stop thinking about the coolness of some of the stuff that happens and you just start to think about what is behind all of this Sampson is one emotional dude. And it leads him to make a lot of really really bad decisions and there's life lessons to be learned there I think most of us can relate to that. Most of us can relate to making bad decisions based out of emotion that just went too far. Male and female alike. So what is it that we learn from all of this stuff what is it that we can take away. I want to show you something that I think is amazing. Something that most of you probably heard before Luke Chapter twenty three verse thirty four Jesus has been betrayed by one of his best friends. He's been illegally tried twice if not three times. He's been legally tried multiple many more times I mean I'm not saying it wasn't skewed I'm just saying it wasn't against the law to have those trials later he was set up he was they chose a known murderer over him. He was beaten. He was on the cross. Not because of anything he did in verse twenty three thirty four Luke twenty three thirty four Jesus said Father forgive them for they don't know what they are doing and the soldiers gambled for his clothes by throwing So as they were gambling for his clothes. As they were beneath him saying who gets to keep his stuff he says. God forgive them. If they don't they don't have a clue what I think for most of us if we look at this story we would say that Jesus probably had more of a right to be the emotionally out of control one of this point based on everything he just went through but his response wasn't being emotionally not true I'm not saying he didn't experience emotion on the cross that's that's ridiculous there's a difference between experiencing Him emotion and letting emotion drive you into bad decisions Jesus says forgive them in the midst of what they're doing. Aren't you glad that we weren't depend dependent on Samson for salvation because I don't think that would have gone our way but Jesus in the midst of all of this stuff in the midst of everything that's going on thinks of others instead of just himself Samson in the midst of everything that's going on thinks of himself and no one else and that's really where a story in the Bible from thousands of years ago. Crosses our path. And many of us aren't going to know what it's like to stand on a battlefield something like this facing an army you're probably never going to relate to that part of the story it's cool it's one of the Honestly I think it's a hilarious story. Just because it's so out there most of us can't relate to that. But most of us can and will relate to times getting tough things not going our way. And making really bad decisions out of the emotion that's involved in it because all we're thinking about is ourself and I'm going to challenge you if that's you today. To ask God for forgiveness because I don't think it's just dumb. I truly believe if you look at scripture that that's one of the pride. It's listed as sin not just dumb much value to re-evaluate how you think about it. To look in your life some of you are awesome at this you stay cool and collected. In the middle of really tough things some of you don't doesn't make you a horrible person doesn't mean you're broken. It just means it's an area for you to keep growing and some of you are so emotionally dead inside. That he need to pray for God to speak that into you because you shut that part of your life out and while I would say that Jesus didn't make a bad decision based on pride and emotion on the cross I would definitely say. That it was emotion that led him to it because if you believe that love is an emotion. And that was the primary factor for Jesus going to the cross so the just be dead inside isn't great either properly balanced that's the endgame so we're going to hold a service how we do every week Jesus Christ came to the surf we sang songs about it talked about it here just a moment ago he came to this earth and he died not because he thought to be a good time. But because you and I needed it. We needed a final sacrifice to be made right with Jesus. And if you've never done that this if you never accepted Jesus as sacrificing forgiveness in your life and decided to follow him I want to give you a chance to do that this morning. Maybe you're in here and you relate to this story more than you care to admit. As we've

been sitting here talking about making bad decisions when you're older think about yourself or based off a motion you need to really hear Sampson all you can think about right now is who you are. And what's going on in your life right now I want to pray for you this morning I've been there and every one of us has been the emotions were different circumstances were different. But we've all had to wrestle through it it's a big deal so if you put your heads down when I see you close your eyes I want to ask you that first question. Is there anybody in here. You've never accepted the forgiveness of Jesus. You've maybe heard people talk about it before you maybe heard me talk about it before. You never made this decision you never chose to be forgiven you never chose to follow Jesus His sacrifice while you might think it sad has never directly impacted your life. And this morning you want to bend needed Jesus and say I want you to lead instead of me and I need your for it's there anybody in here you've never made that decision before this morning you're ready I'd like you to raise a hand we're not going to wait long I don't like to motivate out of guilt or awkwardness I believe if God has been speaking to you just doesn't take long for anybody that's you you never chosen this before and you're ready to move that second question I'm going to have to ask you keep your heads close now your heads closed your heads down in your eyes closed. Because I know this is a big deal and we're in here and and you know you know that emotion is leading you down paths you shouldn't be going down right now whatever that emotion is. It's clouding your judgement it's causing you to make bad decisions. And this morning you need to learn the lesson from last week and it's just stop and listen for God get some good advice and allow God to speak into your life and not just let the emotion run you if that's you I'd like you to raise your hand I'm not going to call you up this morning I just want to pray for you is there anybody I see is there anybody else in here you're going to be honest and say wrong things are driving near a couple more back there so you can go and look at me. I'm going to pray for you this morning and I know that I'm not going to ask you come up here and I'm not going to ask you to stand because I just don't think that's the best thing right now this morning as we've gone through this one but I'm going to challenge you to find somebody that you trust and tell my story I'm going to ask you do something else. And I ask you to trust good advice OK I know we all think we're awesome usually. We get into something that's. Outside of what we can handle our own and we blind ourselves from the fact that it's wrong things driving us in a decision most of us can relate to that. As pride. Solid is just pride and what you really need to do is just listen to people whose judgment isn't clouded. Don't do that on Facebook talk to somebody real. Who really cares about you. And can really give you good advice all right I'm going to pray for them close down for today God to get Samson sometimes more relatable. Than we care to admit. And at some point in time every one of us in this in this room has been able to deal with this be able to relate to this and some people are in the middle of the Right now. Having to make big decisions but instead of making good decisions emotion is causing them to run into some bad ones. I pray God that you help them stop and pray that you help them to talk to you first. I pray that you put godly people wise people around them given the strength. To just open up and ask for somebody to help. Your name I pray a man have a great day.