Welcome to our group! So everyone can get to know everyone, go around the room with everyone taking turns telling:

1. Your name.
2. An answer to one or two of these questions. (If your group is large, only answer one each.)
   - Which describes your week or life recently and why: Breaking Bad? Mad Men? Sons of Anarchy? The Walking Dead? Superman? or Wonder Woman? - or -
   - Who was your favorite hero when you were growing up – real or fictional? Why? - or -

Now, take turns answering these questions. Not everyone need answer each question. Try not to be the person who is first to answer them all. 😊

Open your Bibles and have someone read to the group Judges 16:1-31. Samson has had some good years as a judge over Israel defending the Israelites from the Philistines, but those are in the past when we get to chapter 16.

3. What is the story of Samson and Delilah supposed to teach us?
4. Why would Samson make up and tell Delilah several false stories about the secret of his strength?
5. After all she does with his false answers, why would Samson tell Delilah the true secret of his strength?
6. Have you ever done something like this? You knew something was foolish or wrong, but you gave in to the pressure of another? For love? For ego? In exasperation?
7. Why is Samson’s hair important to his supernatural strength? What is a Nazarite vow? (Compare Judges 13:2-5.)
8. What is the real secret to Samson’s strength?
9. How can the principals and spirit of the Nazarite vow relate to a Christian today?
10. Is it possible to increase or lose spiritual strength or power through dedication to God or lack thereof?
11. Considering the problems Samson had gotten into with his eyes (14:1, 16:1), is it possible to see what happens to them in the end as an act of the grace of God? Or as a punishment?
12. Have you ever experienced a loss or tragedy that later you came to see as a blessing in disguise? What happened?
13. How does the story of Samson end with justice? How is it far from what we’d consider moral?
14. Even though Samson is a flawed hero, God uses him. Pastor Tim suggested that teaching children only the heroic biblical character’s good qualities, could lead them to see being Christian as being the same as being good. And, after all, this fails to do justice to the true power of the gospel. What do you think?

Closing:
15. Is there anything we didn’t discuss about this Sunday’s message that was interesting or important to you?
16. Now, let’s pray. Go around the room and share any concerns for which you would like prayer. Then, either take turns praying for the shared concerns, or invite a few who are comfortable with praying in public to pray.