KIDS WILL UNDERSTAND:

- The story of Samson defeating the Philistines.
- That Samson let his emotions get out of control and misused his gift of strength.
- With God's help, we can control our emotions.
ACTIVITY

The children will test their strength in a game of tug-of-war. Mark the center of a large rope by tying a bandana at the center point. Measure 10 feet from the center of the rope in both directions and wrap masking tape around the rope at those points. The children on both ends of the rope are not allowed to cross this line with their hands. Create a line with masking tape on the floor that matches up with the masking tape on the rope. If you are playing outside, pour flour on the grass to create the lines. During the tug-of-war activity, when the bandana crosses either line, a winner is determined! Divide the children into equal teams. The biggest child on each team should be in the back as the anchor. The children on each side will face each other and pick up the rope. Remember, the front person’s hands may not cross the taped line. The children can start tugging when the leader shouts, “Get in the game!” May the “strongest man” win! (The children may enjoy a good war of boys vs. girls if the numbers are fairly equal!) Make sure the kids do not wrap the rope around their wrists or around their waists.

How many of you have tired arms and hands? That activity took all of your strength! Today, we’re going to learn about a man named Samson and the amazing strength that God gave him.

BIBLE ACCOUNT

Create two large gate doors out of a refrigerator box and have them setting in the front of the lesson area. A male participant will play the role of Samson. He will be wearing a stretchy long-sleeved shirt over a t-shirt, and shorts underneath stretchy sweatpants.

Many of us have heard of a man named Samson. Samson is in the Old Testament of the Bible, and is very well known for being extremely strong. When you think of someone who is strong, how do you picture them in your mind? Yeah, that person is usually full of muscles! As you talk, continually give the male participant handfuls of socks. He will shove socks down the sleeves of his shirt and dishtowels down the legs of his pants until he appears to have huge muscles. There, now Samson looks strong! Lumpy, but strong!

Samson was an Israelite, meaning he was one of God’s chosen people. However, because of their disobedience to God, the Israelites were under the control of the Philistines at this time. The Philistines were enemies of Israel. While under the Philistine rule, Samson became angry with the Philistines because they did something very wrong to him. The Bible tells us that Samson burned with anger! (Samson yells out in anger, beats his chest, and runs out of the children’s area.) Samson devised a plan to get even with the Philistines, and really harm them.
Samson caught 300 foxes and tied their tails together in pairs. He attached a torch to each pair of foxtails and set the foxes loose in the grain fields that belonged to the Philistines. The foxes ran through the Philistines’ fields and set everything on fire. Samson was responsible for the fires that burned the Philistine grain fields, vineyards, and olive groves. Samson’s revenge plan was devastating to the Philistine people. (Turn off the video.)

When the Philistines found out who burned their grain fields, vineyards, and olive groves, they went searching for Samson. Samson hid in a cave, but the people found him. When they asked him why he burned all of the Philistines’ fields, Samson replied, “I only did to them what they did to me.” The people who captured Samson used two new ropes to tie him up. (Samson returns and narrator binds the hands and feet of Samson.) They used new ropes because they knew how strong Samson was and did not want him to escape. As they took him to the Philistines, the Spirit of God came on Samson with great power. (Samson acts out the following lines and breaks free from the ropes and leaves the area again.) The new ropes on his arms seemed to fall apart, and the ropes on his hands appeared to just slip off. By the power of God, Samson basically “hulked” out.

Play the following YouTube video called “The Incredible Hulk – A powerful transformation” submitted by cerealgeek.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ImLwo5RLZ7Y&feature=related

After God gave Samson the strength to break out of the ropes, he found a donkey’s jawbone on the ground. Samson grabbed the bone and struck down dead 1,000 Philistine men.

After Samson’s violent and deadly attack on the Philistine men, he was thirsty. He had used up every ounce of energy and strength killing 1,000 men with a donkey’s jawbone. Samson was desperately thirsty, and pleaded with God for a drink of water. God heard Samson’s cries and split open a rock and water gushed out. God graciously supplied Samson with water; Samson was revived and his strength returned.

(The Samson actor returns to the children’s area and approaches the cardboard gate.) Afterwards, Samson entered the Philistine city of Gaza. Gaza was a city that was surrounded by a wall. At the entrance to the city, there was a gate that was at least two stories high. Two posts were set deep into the ground, and were attached to the gate to support it. The Philistine men of Gaza heard that Samson was in their city. They thought they had him trapped within the city’s walls, and they planned on killing him. (Samson lifts the city gate above his head and carries it out of lesson area.) When Samson heard this fateful news, he escaped Gaza by seizing the doors of the city gate and the two gateposts, bolts and all, lifting them on his shoulder and carrying them
to the top of a hill that was 40 miles away. God had once again given Samson the strength to escape from people who were trying to harm him.

**GAME**

The children will participate in a relay race that will put the story of Samson in sequence. Divide the children into 3 teams and assemble the teams at one end of the room (or outside if you’d like to go out). There will be 3 stations to complete in the race.

At the first station, the children will use a piece of rope to tie 2 stuffed animals together. When they do this, they will say, “Samson tied 300 foxes together and used them to set fire.”

The second station will have a bunch of empty pop cans lying on the floor with a baseball bat beside them. When the players get to this station, they will use the bat to crush 3 pop cans on the floor. Before moving on, they will say, “Samson killed 1000 men with the jawbone of a donkey.”

At the last station, each player will put a large box on their back (as best as they can) and carry it to the end of the area. They will say, “Samson carried the gates of the city to the top of the hill.”

Designate people to reset the sequencing course each time a child goes through it. As soon as that’s done, then signal for the next player to go.

**MESSAGE**

*(show slide #2) Burning up!*

_Samson was angry with the Philistines. In fact, Judges 14:19 tells us that Samson was “burning with anger.” Those are pretty powerful emotions. Picture a fire that starts small, and then spreads and grows until the fire is out of control. Just like a fire that grows out of control, Samson’s emotions grew out of control!*_

- How does someone behave and sound when they are burning with anger?
- It can be very scary to be around people who are burning with anger. Where can you go to feel safe if someone near you is burning with anger?

*(show slide #3) Not so sweet revenge!*
Judges 15:3 says Samson said to them, “This time I have a right to get even with the Philistines; I will really harm them.” Samson was so mad at the Philistines that he thought he had the right to tie 300 foxes together, set their tails on fire, and send these animals to burn up the Philistines’ fields. This reaction was completely overboard!

Samson wanted to get even with the Philistines. He actually said that he had the right to burn their fields. When is it appropriate to get revenge on someone?

Read Romans 12:19, “Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written, ‘It is mine to avenge, I will repay, says the Lord.’” According to this scripture, when is it okay for you to get even with someone? God sees all things. The Bible tells us that He disciplines His children. Even though we may be really hurt by someone, it is never okay to seek revenge.

(show slide #4) Out of control emotions!

Samson was asked why he burned the Philistine fields, and he replied in Judges 15:11, “I merely did to them what they did to me.” This was not true! The Philistines did not burn any fields belonging to Samson. Samson was not thinking or talking clearly, because his emotions were so out of control! Sometimes we can say things that are not true, because our emotions keep us from thinking clearly.

• When you’re in trouble and your mom asks you what’s going on, have you ever said, “He started it” or “She did it first”? We are responsible for how we react. We’re not responsible for how someone else handles their emotions. We are supposed to own up and take responsibility for ourselves, our emotions, and our actions.
• Think about a time at home when you were upset. In the middle of tears or anger, have you ever told someone that you hate them? Have you ever accused your parents of hating you? These words are probably not true. You probably just blurted them out in anger.
• Words that come out of our mouths can never be taken back. That is why it is so important to think before speaking, especially if you are angry! If you are angry in a situation, what could you do before you say something that is hurtful?

(show slide #5) Get a handle on anger.

So what do you do when you feel yourself getting angry? God wants to help you get control of your anger, so by using the wonderful mind He gave you, you can figure out what would help you. Consider these.

(show slide #6) Get away.

First of all, get away from what is making you angry. Don’t stay there
and let whatever it is make you even angrier. Walk away ... run away ... shoo!

(show slide #7) Pray.

Don’t wait until your anger has gotten you in trouble. Get in the habit of calling out to God the moment you feel that anger coming on. Turn the situation over to Him, and believe that He is in control.

(show slide #8) Go to God’s Word.

God gave us the Bible to help us through life’s situations. There are verses that would be good to underline in your Bible, or put on a Bible bookmark, or keep them written together in a special place. Here are just a few that will help you.

(show slide #9)

Proverbs 16:32
Ecclesiastes 7:9
Psalm 37:8
Proverbs 15:1
Colossians 3:8

Ask the children to choose one of the verses to look up. Then, choose one child to read each of the verses. God’s Word can help you calm down and get a grip on your anger. Being assured that anger is not the way God wants you to handle your situations will help you.

(show slide #10) Take a deep breath.

Taking a deep breath ... or 2 or 3 ... gives you a few seconds to think about what you’re doing. When you get angry, your body gets tense and your muscles get tight. God connected your emotions and your body that way. When you take a deep breath, consciously think about relaxing all your muscles, especially the ones you feel getting tight.

(show slide #11) Work it off.

Put that “angry energy” to good use. Find something to do that will help you diffuse that angry energy. Scrub something that’s real dirty or tarnished. I know you won’t like this, but clean your room ... make it shine! Rake the leaves. Pull weeds. Put the dishes in the dishwasher away. Go for a long bike ride. By the time you get done, you should have your anger back under control.

(show slide #12) Talk to yourself.

Say memory verses out loud to yourself. Be a personal cheerleader and say out loud, “I will not let this anger be my master.” Say that with me, “I will not let this anger be my master.” Remind yourself out loud of all the things you are good at and what wonderful friends you have. And, if you don’t want to talk, then sing out loud, and let the song clear
your mind.

(show slide #13) Lower your voice.

When you get angry, your voice gets louder, which leads to yelling. If you stop and purposely lower the volume of your voice, it will catch the other person off guard. They want to argue and they want to yell. It’s hard to yell at someone when they’re talking to you in a real soft, soothing voice.

(show slide #14) Realize what makes you angry.

One of the best weapons against anger is to realize what kinds of things make you angry. When you recognize that, then you can guard yourself against those kinds of situations. You can remind yourself to stay away from the things that cause you to get angry. If you know that every time you’re around Howard you end up yelling at each other, then it sounds like Howard is probably someone you need to stay away from. What’s another way you could keep away from things that anger you?

Use these tools to keep yourself from anger. Colossians 3:8 tells us to “put off anger.” God is in control and He can help you get your anger under control.

OBJECT LESSON

The participants will observe how much water the large sponge can soak up, and how much time it takes for the sponge to soak up different amounts of water. Pour ½ cup of water into the glass dish. One participant will run a stopwatch and time how long it takes for the sponge to soak up all of the water. The person in charge of the sponge will move it back and forth in the dish until the water is completely soaked up. Record the results. Wring out the sponge really well and then pour 1 cup of water into the glass dish. Time how long it takes for the sponge to soak up this amount of water. Again, the person in charge of the sponge will move it back and forth in the dish, and if necessary to soak up all of the water, flip the sponge over. Record results and wring out the sponge again. Pour 1½ cups of water into the dish and repeat the process again. Record the results.

We’re told in Galatians 5:16 to live by the Spirit, and verse 22 tells us that the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. We are told to live with self-control! In Judges 15, Samson burned with anger, and he wanted to get revenge on his enemy. Does that sound like self-control? No!

We’re supposed to live by the Spirit and live life with self-control! How do we do that? We soak up! Yes! We soak up our Mighty God by reading and studying His Word. We listen to what our pastor and church teachers say. Through prayer, we ask God to help us. The more “time”
we spend doing these things, the more of God we “soak” up, and the more self-control we have! How much time do you spend “soaking” up God and His Word? What could you do to spend more time “soaking up” God?

SNACK

Judges 16 tells us that Samson was trapped inside the city walls of Gaza. God again gave him the strength to break free. Samson “got up and took hold of the doors of the city gate, together with the two posts, and tore them loose, bar and all. He lifted them to his shoulders and carried them to the top of the hill that faces Hebron.” Samson tore down not only the two doors but the wooden posts and metal bars that fastened them to the walls. And that’s not all! Then, he carried these gigantic doors on his shoulders 40 miles away to the city of Hebron, which sits on a hill that is 2,800 feet above sea level! Wow! Just thinking about all that energy that Samson burned makes me hungry! Let’s eat!

Show the PowerPoint slide of the massive door. This will give the kids something to go from as they build their snack.

The children will re-create the city gate with their snack food. Give each child 2 graham crackers, 2 pretzel rods, some raisins, some M&Ms, a craft stick, and access to some frosting. The graham crackers represent the enormous city gate doors, the pretzel braids represent the posts that support the doors, and the raisins and/or M&Ms will help create locks and handles to decorate the doors. The frosting is the glue that attaches the posts and the decorations to the doors. After creating the Gaza gate, the children can carry it up the Hebron hill right into their mouths!

SCIENCE EXPERIMENT

Place a marshmallow on a plate in a microwave. Turn the microwave on for 30 seconds. Watch what happens! What do you think this growing marshmallow has to do with our Bible lesson today? The marshmallow represents the anger and emotions that kept building and growing inside of Samson. That marshmallow was cooked for 30 seconds. Let’s see what another marshmallow does when cooked for 10 seconds, 20 seconds, and even 40 or more seconds! Continue the experiment. Make sure you test this out in the microwave you’ll be using, because times differ. You want the marshmallow to get big and puffy.

Wow! It gets pretty scary watching the marshmallow grow and grow while we anticipate a huge explosion! It can be really scary watching someone’s temper grow and grow, too. Some of us are around people...
who let their emotions grow and grow until there is an explosion. Even though we can't control other people's emotions, with the help of God we can control our own emotions.

How would you say you react when you get angry? Are you like a 10-second marshmallow? a 20-second marshmallow? a 30-second marshmallow? or a 40-second marshmallow?

Once a marshmallow has cooked in the microwave for 40 seconds, let it cool down for a minute. What does it feel like? Can you bite into it? After a marshmallow goes through this much heat ... anger ... it changes and becomes really hard. People who are quick to anger all the time have hard hearts. They refuse to let God help them with their anger. I don't think any of us want to have hard hearts!

Anytime you are tempted to speak or act in anger, take a minute to ask God to help you react in a way that you won’t regret ... before it gets out of hand.

**PUPPETS / SKIT**

The #1 puppet should be a boy. The #2 puppet should be a girl. And, the #3 puppet is a parent. These puppets can be human or animals; either will work.

#1: What ya doing?

#2: Watching a movie.

#1: Great! Can I join you?

#2: Sure. Have a seat. (pause while watching the movie) Oh ... I just love this part. Will you please pass me that box of tissues?

#1: Are you kidding me? You're already crying?

#2: Uh, no. I just have something in my eye.

#1: (An argument starts with rising voices and emotions.) Bologna! You're crying! Oh brother ... girls! They're so E-M-O e-mo-tion-al! (said like a rhyme and mockingly)

#2: What do you mean “girls”? Just cuz I'm crying at a movie? What about boys?

#1: What do you mean by that?

#2: When you're playing a game, or sport, or something. How do YOU react if you don't win?
#1: (mumbles) I don't know.

#2: Well, I'll tell you what you don't know ... You throw a fit, or grumble, or threaten to quit! Now that's E-M-O e-mo-tion-al!

#1: At least I'm not crying over a fake movie!

#2: At least I'm not pouting over a game!

#3: (adult enters) Hey. Hey you two. What's going on here?

#1: 'Ol cry baby needs a tissue.

#2: No! 'Ol hot head needs a referee!

#3: Alright, both of you need to take a minute to cool off. Are you guys talking about your different emotions?

#1 & #2 together: (upset) YES!

#3: Okay. I see. Well, emotions aren't necessarily a bad thing. God gave us emotions. Emotions are a good thing if you don't let them get out of hand in a negative way.

#2: What do you mean?

#3: Well, I'm sure glad God has emotions, because His emotions cause Him to love us and to have compassion on us even though we're sinners.

#1: Yeah, but that's different than her crying over a movie.

#3: Not totally. This movie might be fiction, but she's expressing her compassion for the people who are going through a hard time in the movie.

#1: I suppose so, even though the people are FAKE!

#3: (addressing the boy) And you. You don't like to lose. That's not a bad thing. It's just how you react if you do lose that's important. God likes to win too!

#2: What does God want to win? He already has everything He could want!

#1: Oh ... I know! God wants to win people! He wants to win people to His Son, Jesus!

#3: Exactly! If you lose a game and start throwing your equipment around, do you think that you're helping God win people over to His team?
#1: (head down) No.

#3: (addressing the girl) And you. If you allow your emotions to get out of control and you start holding grudges against people that may hurt their feelings, do you think that will help bring people closer to God?

#2: (head down) No.

#3: Ya see, emotions are great! We just need to ask God to help us control our emotions. Now, why don't you both apologize to each other for letting your emotions get a little bit out of control.

#1: I'm sorry for calling you a cry baby.

#2: And I'm sorry for calling you a hot head.

#3: Great! Now no holding any grudges, either! And one more thing ...

#1 & #2 together: What now?

#3: Both of you better get over here and shower me with some good emotions! (give each other hugs)

**ACTIVITY – VIDEO**

Download the YouTube video below called “The BEST Philip Wellman Video” submitted by averyj. If you need assistance, please refer to the file we have provided for both Mac and PC users.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ePi2-nE8L2w

**In the Bible story today, we learned how Samson overreacted to his hurt feelings. Samson lit fields on fire and killed 1,000 men because he let his emotions get way out of control. We often see people overreact in sports and games, too. When we are in the heat of the moment, we may say or do something in a game that will be embarrassing to us in the near future. Let’s watch a baseball game clip in which the coach lost his control after an umpire’s call. Show the clip.**

We may laugh at that clip now, but after that coach created a huge strike zone over home plate, literally stole two bases, pretended to be in a war zone throwing grenades at the umpire, and gave his final goodbye wave, how do you think he felt about his behavior? Yes! That must be embarrassing to him now! Like that coach, sometimes we react too quickly in a situation before thinking about how our reaction is going to affect us and the people around us.
In one of your sporting events, or just a game in your back yard with your neighbors, have you ever seen someone throw a water bottle, kick the dirt, or start screaming? Wherever we are, we need to remember that we are representing Jesus Christ. The people around you probably know that you are a Christian, or at least they know that you go to church. These people are watching you and observing how Christians react in certain situations. In the moment, we may think that it is a really BIG deal if we strike out or miss the game winning basket. We may be really embarrassed by our disappointing play. However, if we are focused on Jesus Christ, we will know that these things happen to all people, and they are not what really matter in our lives. Now, showing others how Jesus would react in difficult situations IS a big deal!

**OBJECT LESSON**

In the story of Samson, we heard that Samson “burned with anger.” I don’t know about you, but I’m not real fond of burned things. If it’s food, then I don’t want to eat it. If it’s an object that’s burned, then it usually doesn’t work any longer. I’m going to show you some things that are burned, and I want you to tell me what you think they are … or were!

Put each burned thing you’ve brought with you on a separate plate. There should be at least 6 of these items. Include things like: burned piece of toast, burned piece of paper, burned fried egg, burned hamburger, burned sock, burned candy bar wrapper.

Once the kids identify each of the items, ask them to tell you what makes them angry (anger triggers). Fold each half-sheet of card stock in half to make a tent. Write one “anger trigger” on each tent and place one in front of each burned item plate. Once you’ve got 6 reasons for kids to get angry written on the card tents, then give each kid one bean (or penny or other little easily accessible object). The kids will vote on which one of these things is their biggest anger problem by placing their bean at that plate. You can scatter the plates and the card tents around the room to avoid congestion as the kids vote.

After all the kids have voted, quickly try to determine which of these is the biggest reason they get angry. What can you do the next time a situation like this comes up? Are there different ways to deal with anger according to the kind of situation it is? Think about how you handle your anger in each of these situations.

**PRAYER**

When our anger begins to boil up, we need to hand it over to God, because He can help us COOL down. We want to come to God in prayer, and ask Him to help us not to “lose our COOL” when we become angry.
Beforehand, you’ll need to freeze a bottle of water for each child. Keep in mind that water expands when it freezes, so the bottles shouldn’t be full when placing them in the freezer. Give each child a frozen bottle of water. Beforehand, make a label for the outside of the bottle that says, “Keeping my cool with God’s help.” As the kids pray today, they will hold onto their nice cool bottle.

Lord, thank you for Your Word.
It’s easy to lose my cool when I become angry.
We learned today how Samson lost his temper.
But I want to act like You.
Help me to have self-control so I can cool down when I get angry.
Help me keep my emotions under control and to keep my cool.
In Jesus’ Perfect Name.
Amen!

TAKE HOME REMINDER

We suggest that you give the children a squeeze ball from orientaltrading.com, “He’s Got the Whole World” relaxable squeeze balls, IN-36/541, $14.50/doz. The ball resembles a globe with “He’s Got the Whole World” written on it. When you are tempted to get angry, and you feel yourself moving in that direction, reach for this ball. Keep squeezing it until those angry feelings start going away, and say what’s written on the ball over and over out loud. Remember, God is in control. He wants to guide you through your situation and your anger, but you need to submit to His control.

BLESSING

May God bless you with the strength to “keep your cool” in difficult situations.
2 Timothy 4:7-8
“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful. And now the prize awaits me—the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on the day of His return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his appearing.”

Form teams ... as many as you’d like. Each team will send a representative to the front where they each will be given 5 pop cans. At the signal, they will stomp on their cans. The first person to get all 5 cans SMASHED is the winner. The team that person represents will say the scripture memory passage together. Then, each team will send another representative for the next round. You may need a couple of judges to watch the cans and decide if they have been smashed completely and who was first.

*Stomping on cans is a much better way to get rid of your anger ... and it gets the cans ready for recycling!* 

**OBJECT LESSON**

Three children will come to the front of the lesson area. Hand each child a gift bag. Approach the first child and take the gift bag from him. A gift for me? Oh, thank you so much! Pull the fork out of gift bag and start combing your hair with it. *This is just perfect! It works great! What a super gift!* 

Approach the second child and take the gift bag from him. You really shouldn’t have! For me? What a surprise! Pull the necklace out of the gift bag and start eating it. *Mmmm, delicious! Thank you so much for this great gift!* 

Approach the third child and take the gift bag from him. You are so sweet! I love gifts! Pull the book out of the gift bag, put it on the floor and stand on it. *This is wonderful! Look how much taller it makes me look! Super gift, buddy!* 

The volunteer children will sit down, and switch to addressing all the kids. I just love getting gifts, don’t you? Did you notice anything funny about my reaction to the gifts I received? I was a bit ridiculous, don’t you think? I received great gifts, but I did not use them as the giver intended me to. God gives each of us
different gifts? Samson’s strength was a gift from God. The Bible tells us that before Samson tore out of his ropes, the Spirit of the LORD came upon him in power. Samson received the gift of strength from the Lord. After Samson freed himself from the ropes, do you think that Samson used his gift of strength the way God intended him to?

We can misuse the gifts God has given us, just like Samson. For example, God may have given you a great singing voice, but if you only use your voice to sing music that doesn’t glorify God, then you aren’t using your gift as the Giver intended you to.

• What other examples can you think of how we might misuse the gifts God gave us?

### SCIENCE EXPERIMENT

You don’t have to have the Mentos geyser tube to do this experiment, but it makes it a hundred times better and easier if you do. You can purchase a geyser tube from stevespanglerscience.com for $4.99. Some novelty stores and teacher supply stores also carry them.

What happened when Samson got angry? He exploded, didn’t he? His anger toward the Philistines built up inside of him and caused him to take some pretty drastic actions against them. Let’s do an experiment that reminds me of how Samson’s anger exploded.

Even if the kids have seen this before, everyone loves to watch it over and over. It is best to do this experiment outside where you won’t have to clean up the mess. Otherwise, make sure you put down a tarp. Set the open 2-liter on a flat surface. Attach the geyser tube and make sure the pin is in place. Fill the tube with an entire package of Mentos. With the kids standing back from the bottle, say, “Samson’s anger exploded!” Then, pull the pin and step back … quickly!

If you don’t have a geyser tube, then you’ll need to cup your hands around the opening of the 2-liter and drop the Mentos in as quickly as possible. Then, get back!

Have you ever had a time when your anger erupted like this—when you were out of control? Have you ever witnessed someone else’s anger erupting in an out-of-control manner? We’ve talked about some ways you can keep your anger under control. Let’s review some of them.

Be prepared to make another geyser. One is never enough!

### GAME

Beforehand, fill the 3 2-liter bottles two-thirds with water and freeze them completely. The kids will sit in a circle. Give the frozen bottles to 3 kids at random places in the circle. We’re going to play a game similar to Hot Potato. When the leader says, “Cool your anger”, the kids will pass
the bottles to the right. After passing the bottle for a little bit, the leader will then signal the bottles to stop by saying, “That’s cool!” Ask the first question to the 3 kids holding the frozen bottles. Any of the 3 of them can answer. Continue passing the frozen bottles around the circle until all the questions have been asked and answered.

- **Who is the man in our story?**  
  (Samson)
- **What special gift had God given Samson?**  
  (gift of strength)
- **Samson was upset with what group of people?**  
  (the Philistines)
- **How did Samson burn the fields belonging to the Philistines?**  
  (He tied the tails of 300 foxes together in pairs and fastened torches to them.)
- **What was Samson's reply when asked why he burned the Philistines' grain fields?**  
  (I only did to them what they did to me.)
- **What did the people use to capture Samson?**  
  (2 new ropes)
- **What did the Spirit of God do to help Samson?**  
  (came upon Samson in great power)
- **What did Samson use as a weapon after escaping from the ropes?**  
  (a donkey's jawbone)
- **How many men did Samson kill with the jawbone of a donkey?**  
  (1,000)
- **How did God supply Samson with water?**  
  (split open a rock)
- **What city did Samson escape from?**  
  (Gaza)
- **How did Samson escape from Gaza?**  
  (lifted the city gate doors and carried them to the top of a hill)

**EXTRA, EXTRA OPTION**

Invite the parents to join the kids afterwards for sno-cones. What a great way to cool down! You can even repeat some of the games the kids played today, and include the parents.