

A top-down view of two brass teacups on saucers. The teacups are positioned diagonally, one in the upper left and one in the lower right. The saucers are large and have a wavy, organic shape. The background is a crumpled, textured grey surface. The lighting creates soft shadows and highlights the metallic sheen of the brass.

# 52 Weeks of Power

WEEK 28



# Week 28



"Let me tell you a riddle," Samson said to them. "If you can give me the answer within the seven days of the feast, I will give you thirty linen garments and thirty sets of clothes. If you can't tell me the answer, you must give me thirty linen garments and thirty sets of clothes." "Tell us your riddle," they said. "Let's hear it." He replied, "Out of the eater, something to eat; out of the strong, something sweet." For three days they could not give the answer. On the fourth[a] day, they said to Samson's wife, "Coax your husband into explaining the riddle for us, or we will burn



you and your father's household to death.  
Did you invite us here to steal our property?"  
Then Samson's wife threw herself on him,  
sobbing, "You hate me! You don't really love  
me. You've given my people a riddle, but you  
haven't told me the answer."  
- Judges 14:12-16

Samson was chosen and set apart from birth.  
As we read through his story, there are some  
clear moments where he drifted away from his  
calling.

Samson married someone outside of God's  
design for him, and suddenly he's surrounded  
by people who don't share his values, don't  
understand his purpose, and are ready to stab  
him in the back to get what they want.  
Samson's wife was manipulated. He was  
alone. The people around him were using  
him, rather than being for him.

When we aren't intentional with our  
community, we can end up in places God  
never called us to be. We can also end up  
fighting battles he never intended for us to  
fight.

Samson gave access to people who didn't  
have a godly vision for his life. The community  
didn't sharpen him, it did the exact opposite.

Being called by God for a particular purpose is one part of the journey. It's important to also be surrounded by the right people. You can be called and still have things fall apart if your circle pulls you in the wrong direction.

Here's what we want you to know: You were never meant to walk alone, but you also weren't meant to walk with just anyone.

READ: Judges 13-16

REFLECT:

Question 1: Are the people closest to you helping you in your calling or pulling you away from it?

Question 2: Do you have voices in your life that speak to your identity in Christ and hold you accountable?

PRAYER: God, thank You for setting me apart. Help me walk wisely when it comes to relationships and community. Surround me with people who see the purpose you have placed on my life. If I'm connected to the wrong people, give me the strength and clarity needed to step away. In Jesus' name, Amen.