

During this series we will be providing two sets of questions. The first set is for "general use" and the second set is specifically for women.

# **Grow a Pair... Strength and Wisdom**

Weekend Discussion Questions September 25-26, 2010

### **Community:**

1. What was your familiarity with the story about Samson before this weekend?

#### Core:

- 1. In what ways can we be equal but not the same when it comes to men and women?
- 2. As a group summarize and piece together the story of Samson that Scott walked through from the book of Judges. (Look through Judges 14-15 for help)
- 3. What was new to you about the life and struggles that Samson had?
- 4. Samson looked good outwardly, but inside his character led to some bad decisions to use his strength in ways God didn't want and that ruined his life. Can you relate to Samson to any degree?
- 5. Scott described Samson as reckless, careless and selfish. How do you see this demonstrated in Samson's life and what were the consequences he experienced?
- 6. "Eventually your character will reveal who you really are whether you like it or not." Really? How? What does that look like?
- 7. Rock bottom is a place where we come to our senses. Is there a way to come to your senses before you have to hit rock bottom? If so, then how?
- 8. God accomplished his purpose through Samson, but do you think that Samson ever "got it"?
- 9. If wisdom is strength under control then how did Jesus model that better than anyone?
- 10. Are there any areas in which you need to stop relying on your own strength and rely on God?

### **Challenge:**

- 1. Memorize Proverbs 24:5, "A wise man is full of strength, and a man of knowledge enhances his might."
- 2. Write down one area you want to see yourself grow in wisdom by developing good character and ask God to produce that in you.

## **Grow a Pair... Strength and Wisdom**

Weekend Discussion Questions for Women September 25-26, 2010

## **Community:**

- 1. When you think of a strong man, who is the first person that comes to mind?
- 2. What did you know about Samson's story prior to this weekend? How did you picture him?

#### Core:

- 1. Read through Samson's story in Judges chapters 14-16. How would you describe Samson as a man?
- 2. What were his mistakes? What do you think was his **greatest** failure?
- 3. How would you characterize Samson's view of women? What were his standards in choosing women?
- 4. Read Proverbs 31:10-31. Contrast the traits God says make a good wife.
- 5. Who would you say is the strongest woman you know?
- 6. Is strength a character trait God desires to see in women? What does that look like, and is it displayed differently in women than in men?
- 7. The "pair" of traits Scott talked about this week was strength and wisdom. How might Samson's story have been different if he had exercised both?
- 8. Is there one of these traits that you think of as particularly masculine and one as more feminine? Why is that?
- 9. Look again at Proverbs 31, specifically verses 25, 26 and 30. What's the key to a woman being wise?
- 10. What did you think of Vinnie's story, as told in the video?
- 11. Scott characterized Samson's life as "reckless, careless and selfish," with Samson thinking he doesn't have to play by the rules. Have you ever known a man or woman like that?
- 12. How might Samson's story have been different if the desire of his heart had been to chase after God in every decision?

### Challenge:

- 1. Think about what Samson's story teaches about healthy relationships between men and women.
- 2. This week, make an effort to "know your weaknesses" and ask God to direct you in addressing them.