

## *Today's Culture: Spiritual Strength*

*"Your strength must come from the Lord's mighty power within you. Put on all of God's armor so that you'll be able to stand against all the strategies and tricks of Satan."* – Ephesians 6:10-11  
(LB)

### **Three things that weaken your life –**

1. \_\_\_\_\_.

*"Samson went down to Timnah. He saw a young Philistine woman and when he returned he said to his father and mother, 'I've seen a Philistine woman in Timnah. Now get her for me as my wife.' His father and mother replied, 'Isn't there an acceptable woman among your own people? Must you go to the Philistines to get a wife? But Samson said to his father, 'Get her for me. She's the right one.'" – Judges 14:1-3*

**Mistake #1:** \_\_\_\_\_.

*"Don't be misled; remember that you can't ignore God and get away with it; a man will always reap just what kind of crop he sows. If he sows to please his own desire he will be planting seeds of evil and surely reap a harvest of spiritual decay and death." – Galatians 6:7 (paraphrased)*

**Point #1:** \_\_\_\_\_.

*"Strengthen yourselves with Christ's way of thinking. Live your lives controlled by God's will, not by human desires." – 1 Peter 4:1-2*

2. \_\_\_\_\_.

*"Samson said to them, 'This time I have a right to get even with the Philistines and I'll really harm them. Since you've acted like this, I won't stop until I get my revenge. I merely did what they did to me.'" – Judges 15:3,7,11*

**Mistake #2:** \_\_\_\_\_.

*"To worry yourself to death with resentment would be a foolish, senseless thing to do." – Job 5:2*

*"You are only hurting yourself with your anger!" – Job 18:4*

*"A hot tempered man always gets into trouble." – Proverbs 22:29*

**Point #2:** \_\_\_\_\_.

---

3. \_\_\_\_\_.

*“You will have to live with the consequences of everything you say.” – Proverbs 18:20*

**Mistake #3:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Point #3:** \_\_\_\_\_.

*“Avoid the appearance of evil.” – 1 Thessalonians 5:22*

*“I’ll tell you the secret of my strength. Tie me up with seven bow strings, like from a bow and arrow.” – Judges 16:7*

*“If you braid my hair then I’ll lose my strength.” – Judges 16:13*

**His lifestyle of self-indulgence, resentment and carelessness finally weakened him and he gave in.**

*“Then she said to him, ‘How can you say “I love you” when you won’t confide in me. This is the third time you’ve made a fool of me and haven’t told me the secret of your strength.’ With such nagging she prodded him day after day until he was tired to death. So he told her everything.” – Judges 16:15-17*

*“He always does what he promises, no matter how much it costs.” – Psalm 15:4*

*“A chain is only as strong as its weakest link.” – Anonymous*

**You’re only as strong as your weakest commitment.**

*“Then the Philistines seized him, gorged his eyes out, took him down to Gaza, binding him with bronze shackles they set him to grinding in the prison.” Judges 16:21*

**What is the weak link in our life?**

**Self-indulgence?**

**Resentment?**

**Carelessness?**

**Reflect: How will you apply this teaching? What really stood out to you in this message?**

---

---

---

---

---

---