



Biblical Drama based on Judges 13:16:4-31

Character Parts: Narrator 1-8, Angel, Samson, Friend, Philistine, Leader, Delilah

Narrator 1: Back in the days before Israel had a king, they were ruled by local leaders called Judges. At this time, the Philistines (FILL-i-steens) were the enemies of God's people.

Narrator 2: Among the Israelites, there was a man named Manoah. He and his wife were unable to have children. One day, an angel appeared to them with wonderful news!

Angel: Behold, I know you are barren and do not have any children, but you will soon bear a son. No razor shall ever come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite (*NAZ-a-rite*) — a man set apart to God — and he shall save Israel from the hand of the Philistines.

Narrator 3: When the boy was born, they called his name Samson. As grew, and the Lord blessed him, and he became very strong. Samson remained faithful to God's Word and never cut his hair. The Philistines were jealous of him.

Samson: Hey, Mom, me and my friends are going to lift some weights. I'll be back home later.
(*Samson sees Delilah*) Hey. Who's that? She's really pretty!

Friend: Oh, her name is Delilah. But don't get mixed up with her, Samson. You know that the Philistines haven't treated our people very well. I think you'd better stay away from her.

Samson: It can't hurt just to talk to her. (*Samson goes to greet Delilah.*)

Philistine: Well, would you look at that? Samson's sweet on Delilah. This could come in very handy for us. Yes, indeed! (*evil cackle*)

Leader: Pssst! Delilah! It seems that our enemy, Samson, likes you. Find out the secret of his strength for us, and we'll pay you 1,100 pieces of silver.

Delilah: Wow. That's a lot of money! What should I do?

Philistine: Pretend to be his girlfriend.

Delilah: I can do that. (*flirting with Samson*) Hey, handsome, could you lift this heavy box for me?

Narrator 4: Samson fell in love with Delilah, but he never did tell her the secret of his strength. Day after day, she pestered him about it, until he was tired of her begging.

Delilah: If you really loved me, Samson, you'd tell me the source of your great strength. You mustn't care for me at all. (*pretends to cry*)

Samson: No! That's not it! (*pauses*) Okay, I'll tell you: I'm a Nazirite. My parents promised God that no razor would ever touch my head. If my hair is cut, I'll lose my strength.

Narrator 5: Immediately, Delilah sent word of this to the Philistine leaders. While Samson slept that night, Delilah had a man shave his head.

Delilah: Wake up, Samson! The Philistines are here!

Samson: Never fear! I'll fight them off like I always have! (*flexes*) Wait. I don't feel strong anymore.

Narrator 6: With his strength gone, the Philistines easily captured Samson. They blinded him and made him work as a slave.

Philistine: Look, the big tough guy isn't so tough anymore!

Narrator 7: They had Samson brought to the temple of Dagon, their god. They held a celebration and forced Samson to entertain them.

Samson: God, I know I broke my vows. But please, remember and strengthen me — just this once.

Narrator 8: Putting one hand on each of the two main pillars in the temple, Samson pushed hard. Suddenly, both pillars gave way, and the whole roof came crashing down. This is how Samson defeated his enemies and got his revenge!