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set apart guy/girl: lesson 4- Finish Strong

Review:

- *Girls, what are some things you learned about being a Godly girl? Guys, what did you learn?
- *What did we learn about friendship/courting? What about how far is too far?
- *Now, let's look at the final part...finishing strong.
- What are some people who rose quickly to fame, but was soon forgotten? (sports, entertainment, etc.)
- Hansen & Spice Girls; etc.

I. The Potential of a Superstar (the story of Samson)

A. God had big plans for him (**Judges 13:4-5, 24**)

1. God was calling him to be SET APART for God as a Nazirite
 - couldn't drink alcohol, have a haircut, or go near a dead body
2. His parents invested into him remaining PURE
 - godly parents who obeyed God
3. Ultimately, he would be the one who would save God's people from captivity
 - when God created you, He had special and specific plans for your life

B. God gave him special TALENTS to be used for God

- *a future judge of Israel and had extreme strength
- ***Judges 14:5-6**
- *later he even caught 300 foxes and later killed 1,000 with the jawbone of a Donkey and more! (**Judges 15**)

II. His Weaknesses...The LADIES and HIMSELF

- A. He went against his PARENTS' wishes and married a Philistine (**Judges 14:1-3**)
- B. He went against GOD and ate out of a lion's carcass (**Judges 14:8-9**)
- C. After the death of his 1st wife, he slept with a prostitute and eventually fell in love with a crooked woman who teamed up with the Philistines (**Judges 16**)
 - *she would talk him into going against God and leading them to having his hair cut

III. God Accomplished His Plans Through His Failures

- *The end of Samson's life would be marked by failed relationships, a wife dying because of him, being imprisoned with manual labor, having his eyes poked out, and eventually dying when he knocked down the temple. Samson started strong, but didn't finish the race.
- *While Samson didn't receive God's blessings, God's will was accomplished
- A. God used Samson's poor CHOICE of the 1st girl who punish the Philistines (**Judges 14:4**)
- B. God used Samson's poor CHOICE of the 2nd girl to put an end to the Philistines

*Hebrews 12:1-2

**Finish lesson with love letter to future spouse