

Committed to God

# Judges 13: 2-5

## Samson

Judges 13: “ A certain man of Zorah, named Manoah, from the clan of the Danites, had a wife who was childless, unable to give birth. The angel of the LORD appeared to her and said, “You are barren and childless, but you are going to become pregnant and give birth to a son... You will become pregnant and have a son whose head is never to be touched by a razor because the boy is to be a Nazirite, dedicated to God from the womb. He will take the lead in delivering Israel from the hands of the Philistines.”

# Samson experienced supernatural return when he walked in the power of the Spirit!

Killed a lion with his bare hands "And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and he tore the lion" ( Judges 14:6)

Caught 300 foxes and torched fields (Judges 15: 4-5)

Killed 1000 Philistines with a jawbone of a donkey "When he came to Lehi, the Philistines came shouting against him. Then the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him; and the ropes that *were* on his arms became like flax that is burned with fire, and his bonds broke loose from his hands. He found a fresh jawbone of a donkey, reached out his hand and took it, and killed a thousand men with it." (Judges 15:14-15)

Samson has it all: the looks, the reputation,  
the destiny...



His eyes are moving and he is flirting with evil!

(Samson) “came to the vineyards of Timnah.

Now *to his* surprise, a young lion *came* roaring against him. <sup>6</sup> And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and he tore the lion apart as one would have torn apart a young goat, though *he had* nothing in his hand. But he did not tell his father or his mother what he had done.

(Judges 14: 5-6)

Nazarite Vow: (Devoted to God)

- **Keep from eating or drinking of grapes**
  - Keep away from dead bodies
  - Don't cut hair

His eyes are moving and he is flirting with evil!

**“Now Samson went down to Timnah, and saw a woman in Timnah of the daughters of the Philistines. (Judges 14:1)**

Deuteronomy 7:6

For you *are* a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth.

When we walk away from God's direction, it is inevitable that we will soon see sin as acceptable.

“Then he went down and talked with the woman, and he liked her.

<sup>8</sup> Some time later, when he went back to marry her...” (Judges 14:7-8)

“Nor shall you make marriages with them. You shall not give your daughter to their son, nor take their daughter for your son. For they will turn your sons away from following Me, to serve other gods; so the anger of the LORD will be aroused against you” (Deuteronomy 7:3-4)

When we walk away from God's direction, it is inevitable that we will soon see sin as acceptable.

“After some time, when he returned to get her, he turned aside to see the carcass of the lion. **And behold, a swarm of bees and honey were in the carcass of the lion.** <sup>9</sup> **He took some of it in his hands and went along, eating.** When he came to his father and mother, he gave *some* to them, and they also ate. But he did not tell them that he had taken the honey out of the carcass of the lion.” (Judges 14: 8-9)

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“Now Samson went to Gaza and saw a harlot there, and went in to her.”

(Judges 16:1)

When we deliberately sin continuously without repentance, we become insensitive to the Holy Spirit.

“She said, “The Philistines *are* upon you, Samson!” So he awoke from his sleep, and said, “I will go out as before, at other times, and shake myself free!” **But he did not know that the LORD had departed from him.**”

(Judges 16:20)

“Then the Philistines took him and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza.”

(Judges 16:21)

How do we ensure that we walk in discipleship with Christ, and remain sensitive to the Holy Spirit's voice and power?

- **1. We need men and women, who actively seek God's heart and listen to Him, in our support network.**
- **"The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results." (James 5:16)**
- **"I constantly remember you in my prayers..." (2 Timothy 1:3)**

How do we ensure that we walk in discipleship with Christ and remain sensitive to the Holy Spirit's voice and power?

## 2. Keep seeking God and His presence.

“Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. <sup>13</sup> You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. <sup>14</sup> I will be found by you,” declares the LORD...”

(JEREMIAH 29:12-14)

How do we ensure that we walk in discipleship with Christ, and remain sensitive to the Holy Spirit's voice and power?

- Finish well

“Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Hebrews 12:2 )

<sup>6</sup> For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. <sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup> Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.”  
(2 Timothy 4: 6-8)

Keep seeking God and His presence.

Praise and Pray individually

Spend quiet time with God to listen to the Spirit

Pray together: husband and wife, prayer partners, small groups

Read the Word of God daily.

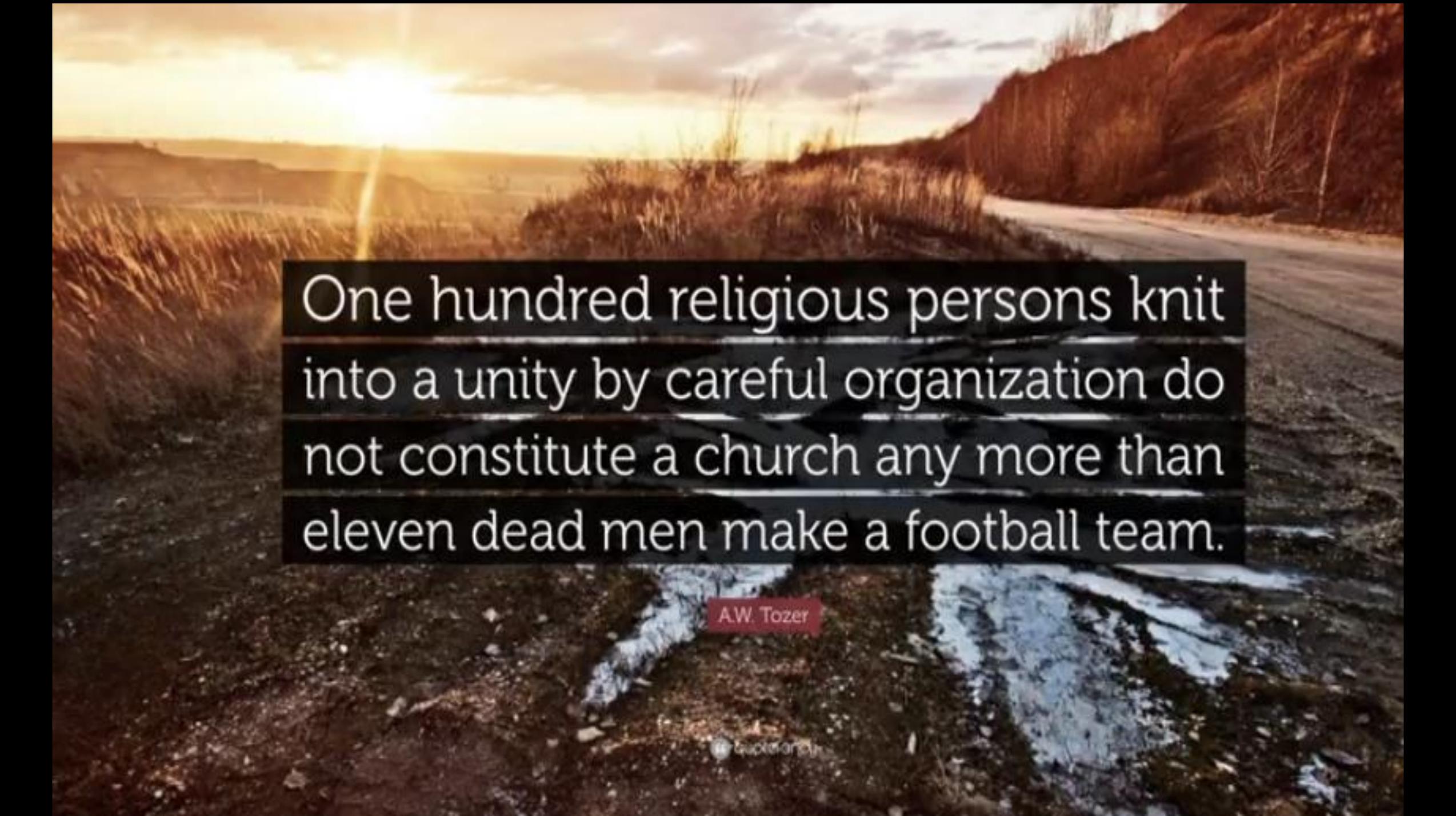
Worship individually

Worship corporately in church

Be active within God's community

### 3: Stand firm on truth and accept the cost.

- There will be a cost to obedience:
- - carrying a cross is not painless!
- “In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evildoers and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.” (2 Timothy 3: 12-13)



One hundred religious persons knit  
into a unity by careful organization do  
not constitute a church any more than  
eleven dead men make a football team.

A.W. Tozer

# His grace is sufficient because His grace empowers

- **“And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, have an abundance for every good work.” (2 Corinthians 9:8)**
- **Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith ...” (Romans 12:6)**

## His grace is sufficient.

- "See, I am sending an angel ahead of you to guard you along the way and to bring you to the place I have prepared." (Exodus 23:20)

It is not too late to repent and turn back to God...

- “Then Samson prayed to the LORD, “Sovereign LORD, remember me. Please, God, strengthen me just once more”. (Judges 16:28)
- And God heard his heart...
- Stand firm. Stay the course.