WOODVALE
PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Connect Group Sermon Aligned Discussion Guide.

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Series Title: What the devil won't tell you
Key Scripture: Judges 13,14,15 and 16
Recorded Sermon: www.woodvale.ca/pastservices/v/what-the-devil-wont-tell-you
Date + Speaker: September 14, 2025 Pastor Mark Scarr

Starter:

1. What has been (to date) the most difficult BUT most important conversation you have EVER had? What was the topic and why was it so important?

Big Idea:
IF Jesus is our Saviour, we are being saved from something. IF that something is SIN, then we need to realize we sin and need saving! The enemy would keep the 'mystery of the Good News' hidden (he steals, kills and destroys) because our heavenly Father wishes for it to be revealed (Col 1:27). Our conversation today will assist us by shedding light on this hidden agenda of the enemy of our souls.

Discussion:

2. READ Judges 13:1-5, 8, 12, 24-25/ Judges 14:1-3, 19-20/ Judges 15:1-7, 14-15, 18-19, 20/ Judges 16:1-5, 20-31 These scriptures take us through Samson's 'rise and fall' - Briefly share what you observe from the text and why it stands out to you? *[This is more observation than opinion]*

3. Referring to the passage, what sins do you observe that Samson committed? Why is sin such an 'unpopular' topic for a sermon or conversation? *[Facilitator be prepared to point out things like the Nazarite rules - 'booze, bodies, buzz']*

4. How do temptation and sin differ? *[Recall Pastor Mark's story - he recognized 'the trap' and nipped any temptation in the bud; sin could not take hold]*

5. “The anointing of God is for one’s public ministry but integrity is for one’s private walk. One will go no further in anointing than their level of integrity will keep” ~ Pastor Mark. And, ‘Sin will take you farther than you ever intended to go’. What general characteristics of sin make it so ‘hard’ to recognize (making it possible for us to go further than we intended)?

6. Paul says, “We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.” Romans 7:14-15 NIV If we don’t want to keep sinning (stay there longer than we intended) what can be done? What hope do we have? *[READ Romans 7:24&25 - 8:**11**]*

Diving Deeper:

7. ‘Sin will cost you more than you ever expected to pay.’ ~ Pastor Mark *[blinding, binding, grinding]* How is considering what is at stake (counting the cost of sin) a useful exercise if we are seeking to live a righteous life? What other practises can we put in place as safeguards against falling into or remaining in sin? *[An example: being in regular fellowship with Jesus followers - church, Connect Group]*

8. *[distribute pens and small pieces of paper]* Invite group members to write down a sin they wish to be delivered from. Together pray that each would be delivered, strengthened and that the counterfeit pleasure of each sin would be satisfied in Christ Jesus. *[‘But the hair on his head began to grow again…Sovereign Lord, remember me. Please God, strengthen me..’ and Hebrews 11:32]* Together, physically shred each paper and throw them out.