

Recap of 7/16/17 (Judges 13:1-8):

1. For the seventh time in the Book of Judges we read of Israel's failure to be faithful to God. Once again Israel rejects God and worships false gods. As a consequence Israel is oppressed by the Philistine's for 40 years.
2. God raises up a deliverer in the form of Samson whose story is told in Judges 13-16. "The story of Samson is one of the strangest in the Bible—at once the story of a great opportunity and a dismal failure." (Donald Campbell)
3. The angel of the LORD (the pre-incarnate Jesus) appears to a childless woman of the tribe of Dan and announces her coming pregnancy. The son she will bear will be a Nazirite from birth and God will use him to provoke the Philistines. The regulations for those who take a Nazirite vow are found in Numbers 6: A Nazirite must not eat any product of the grapevine or drink anything made from grapes; must not go near a dead body; and must not cut his or her hair. The word Nazirite means "devoted," "consecrated," "separated." The Nazirite vow was a vow of separation to the Lord for a period of time.
4. She tells her husband and he prays for another appearance of the angel of the Lord so that he might learn how to bring up the boy. "Like most honest fathers, Manoah was overwhelmed by parenthood." (365 Life Lessons).
5. Spurgeon on parenting: "To teach our children is a personal duty. We cannot delegate it to Sunday school teachers or pastors. These can assist us, but they cannot deliver us from the sacred obligation." (from **Evening by Evening**) Training our children in biblical truth is the first duty of parenting, a personal duty, a natural duty, a necessary duty, a pleasant duty, and a work that God accepts."
6. Books on parenting:
 - Revolutionary Parenting** by George Barna
 - For Parents Only** by Shaunti Feldhahn and Lisa A. Rice
 - Parenting with Scripture** by Kara Durbin
 - What Every Child Should Know Along the Way** by Gail Martin