

Sacredly Written Sermon Notes

Capturing Heaven's Downloads, One Message at a Time

Rock City Church | Pastor Darius | August 31, 2025
Message Title: "Don't Cut Me Off"

Neffeteria Williams www.sacredlywritten.com

Scripture Focus

Judges 16:20 (NLT)

Then she cried out, "Samson! The Philistines have come to capture you!" When he woke up, he thought, "I will do as before and shake myself free."

Sermon Summary

This sermon was a wake-up call for those of us stuck in the cycle of trying to change but never truly transforming. Pastor Darius reminded us that salvation isn't the same as transformation—because while we've been performing healing, we haven't been submitting to it. Real change comes when we stop hiding behind shame, shift our mindset, and let God give us a new heart from the inside out.

When You're Winning in Everything But Relationships

What do you do when you're winning in all the areas of your life—except relationships?

- Many of us know how to build businesses, kill it at work, or thrive creatively... but we're bleeding in silence when it comes to who we're choosing.
- A study shows: One of the greatest issues in America is that you get married... and stop dating.

- "Just because you found her doesn't mean you stop chasing her."

You're doing everything else right—but have you cut off God in your relational decisions?

Don't Cut Off God or the Holy Spirit

- We cut God off based on our attachments.
- Every relationship in your life is either helping or hurting your connection to God.
- Even when we make bad choices in picking people—God doesn't give up on us.

Corinthians 6:14 (NKJV): *"Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers."*

- Paul wasn't teaching us to be unloving. He was teaching us to love God more than our desire to be loved by others.
- Some of us get a little attention and *lose our mind*.
- Paul's metaphor: Yoking an ox with a donkey—same connection, different pace = tension, frustration.

The Danger of Unequally Yoked Relationships

- Be careful who you call friend—or spouse. What fits one season may slow you down in the next.
- The Corinthians lived in a corrupted city like a mix of Miami & Vegas—trying to live healthy in the middle of dysfunction.
- Some of your frustration isn't from the enemy—it's from who you gave access to.
 - You're trying to take them where God is taking you, but you are not equally yoked.
 - Biblical Examples:
 - King Solomon = the smartest
 - Samson = the strongest
 But neither could break the bondage of ungodly soul ties.

Soul Ties, Bondage & Breaking Patterns

What do you do when bonds become bondage?

- You don't know how deep a soul tie is until God places you in a season where it's time to break it.
 - They're not in your bed, but still in your head.
- Soul ties aren't just with people. They can be with places, things, or ideas.

What do you do when you're grieving the life you thought you wanted?

Egypt in Your Spirit

- God may bring you out of a place—but your soul is still attached to it.
 - Ex: Children of Israel left Egypt, but Egypt still lived in them.
 - Modern-day Ex: He spent all those years getting you out of the relationship, but now He has to get the *ex* out of you.

The Power of Holy Cuts

- Faith will always require **a series of cuts**.
- But we often keep what we don't need... and cut what we do.
- Culture says: If it doesn't add value, cut it off.
- But sometimes what you need to carry is a *cross*, not a *curse*.

Luke 9:23 — *"If anyone wants to follow me, he must deny himself, pick up his cross, and follow me."*

- Love God more than your preferences.

Praise is a Weapon of Faith

- Walk by faith, not sight.
- Praise isn't just emotional—it's intellectual.
- "I'm facing the facts but keeping the faith."

Faith says: I don't just believe it will work out—I believe God will work it out.

Samson's Assignment & Appetite

Judges 13:5 — Samson's mother was visited by an angel: He was to deliver Israel from the Philistines.

- He couldn't drink alcohol, touch unclean things, or cut his hair.
- But Samson *kept what he was supposed to cut*. He fell in love with the enemy.

Appetite vs Assignment

- "Why are you in love with what keeps hurting you?"
 - Why are you settling with an assignment but not allowing God to redeem your appetite?
- You can be a good person and still make bad picks.
- "Whoever you pick will be either an asset or an assault."

Fatal Attraction: Love That Binds You

- Samson falls in love again with a Philistine—Delilah.
 - Her name means **delicate or to weaken**.
- The philistines sent Delilah. The enemy sends dilemmas.
- **Fatal attraction:** Trying to meet real needs with the wrong people.
 - "You think they're feeding you—but it's poison, not provision."
- God's correction is a love language.
 - It's not an attack—it's alignment.

Low Places Lead to Low Picks

- Judges 16:4 — Samson fell in love *while in a low place* (Valley of Sorek = low & dry).
- In dry places, you'll drink anything.
- You're not evil—you're just empty.
- "Your taste changes when you're full."

Patterns Over Problems

- True maturity = Not blaming the devil, but recognizing dysfunction.

- Samson didn't have a problem. He had a pattern—choosing Philistine women.
- Have you checked your history?
- What do your patterns reveal?

Exhaustion Is an Open Door

- When you're tired, be careful who you listen to, talk to and have around you.
- Find a way to consecrate yourself when you're exhausted.
 - Exhaustion = seedbed for temptation.
- If you're not careful, success will make you think it's *you*, not God.

God's Grace for Comebacks

- His hair grew back. His strength returned.
- Samson asked God to guide him. He completed the assignment—but died in the process.
 - He could've lived longer had he let God cut what he kept.

God's Boundaries = Protection

- Many get saved, then fall off when they enter a relationship.
- Samson wasn't just breaking rules—he was violating covenant.
- “Vampire Christianity” (Dallas Willard): “Jesus, give me your blood and nothing else.”
- You cannot live a full life if you compromise on God's values.

Self-Sabotage: When Strength Has No Sight

- The enemy doesn't defeat you—he exposes your weakness so you defeat *yourself*.
- Samson told Delilah about his covenant.
 - She exploited the intimacy. He woke up with no strength.
 - They gouged out his eyes. What he wouldn't see in one season, he couldn't see in the next.
 - A strong man... but no vision.

Reflection Questions

1. What are you still attached to that God has told you to cut?
2. Are you confusing connection with covenant?

3. Are you keeping a pattern God already revealed?
4. Do you want love more than you want God's will?
5. Have you exchanged boundaries for validation?
6. What low places are you trying to pick from?
7. Are you dating to heal... or dating to hide?
8. What voices are you giving power to in seasons of exhaustion?
9. Have you idolized being chosen more than being obedient?
10. Are you holding onto people that God's trying to remove?
11. What does your appetite reveal about your assignment?
12. Are you praising based on how you feel or what you believe?
13. Who around you feels good but is slowing your pace?
14. Have you checked your patterns—or just your pain?
15. What are you trying to keep that's actually costing you your calling?

Personal Reflection

Pastor Darius really had me self reflecting on this sermon. Have I been trying to manage my healing instead of submitting to it? Choosing what I want to change instead of surrendering what God wants to cut? Maaaaan....

It's wild how you can be *winning* in your purpose, showing up in rooms, walking in anointing... and still be tangled up in places God never meant for you to stay. That part about Samson hit different. Because I know what it feels like to have strength but no direction—vision clouded by soul ties I should've broken, patterns I noticed and avoided, and ones i should've but didn't. I've definitely been sleeping on red flags, calling them “growing seasons” when really it was bondage dressed in my desired fantasy.

What I keep hearing in my spirit is this: *Don't confuse connection with covenant*. Just because it feels good, or looks like purpose, doesn't mean it's God. I've been yoked to people, places, and ideas that couldn't move at my pace—and instead of releasing them, I slowed down, hoping they'd catch up. But now I realize: some of the delays in my destiny were self-inflicted. God didn't ask me to fix it, He asked me to follow Him. Thats it. Don't pass go don't collect \$200. (My millennials will catch that lol).

Samson had strength but no sight, and that scared me because I've been there. Winning on paper, but spiritually blind. And now I know, it's not the enemy—it's exhaustion, misalignment, disobedience. I've been making decisions from empty

places, letting people get too close. If I don't allow God to cut what needs to be cut, it could cost me more than I'm willing to pay. I don't want to be strong and still fall. I don't want to be called and still miss it. I don't want to perform healing—I want to walk in it.

So, God... cut me. Not to hurt me, but to heal me. Cut me in the areas I've been hiding. Cut off every appetite that's feeding dysfunction. Cut off my need to be needed. Cut off what looks like love but leads to bondage. Cut off what's distracting me from You. I want the kind of change that doesn't just make me look different—I want the kind that makes me *live* different.

No more cutting You off, Lord. I'm tapped in. I'm aligned. And this time, I'm all in, **REAL BAD.**