

# Minnesota Cuke

## & the Search for Samson's Hairbrush



### What is the STORY about?

Larry the Cucumber is Minnesota Cuke, a children's museum curator and part-time adventurer hired to secure Samson's lost hairbrush before its purported powers are used to carry out a harebrained scheme to control both sides of Niagara Falls. Could this preposterous plot be the dirty work of Minnesota's long-time nemesis Professor Rattan? In this hair-raising, trans-global adventure, the award-winning story tellers at Big Idea take you from Moose Lake to Malta in an exciting VeggieTales episode that reminds us that God wants us to be courageous when facing bullies.

- *A Lesson in Dealing With Bullies*
- *Key Passage: Judges 13-16*
- *Running time: 20 minutes*
- *Bonus Show: "Bully Trouble" (12 minutes)*



### What do you THINK?

- *Why is Minnesota Cuke discouraged about finding items for the children's museum? (He is always being bullied by Professor Rattan)*
- *For what reason does Minnesota Cuke decide to search for the legendary hairbrush of Samson? (The person who finds the hairbrush will gain Samson's power, and he will have the power to stop Rattan from bullying everyone.)*
- *How does Rattan get the map of the catacombs where the hairbrush is hidden? (He steals it from the Barbershop in Seville.)*
- *Why does Minnesota Cuke decide not to press charges against Rattan? (Because God gives us the power to love everybody—even our enemies.)*
- *What happens to Samson's hairbrush at the end of the show? (It is on display in the children's museum.)*



### What does the BIBLE say?

Samson's story is told in Judges 13-16. Tell the story in the abbreviated version that is given OR read appropriate passages from a Bible translation that is easy for the children to understand.

***The Philistines ruled over the Israelites for forty years until they finally remembered God and prayed to Him for help. God sent a man named Samson to save His people from the bullying Philistines. God told Samson's parents that their son would be special and that he must never cut his hair. Samson obeyed, and he became the strongest man on earth—in fact, he once killed a lion with his bare hands. Samson was bullied by the Philistines and used his strength to get even with them. He finally fell in love and married a woman named Delilah. The Philistines were very eager to know why Samson was so strong, and they bribed his wife to discover the secret and tell them. Delilah tried hard to persuade Samson to tell her the secret of his strength. Three times he lied to her, but finally, when he could no longer stand her nagging and prodding, he told her the secret. "God gives me strength. If I disobey Him and cut my hair, my strength will leave me." Delilah revealed the secret to the Philistines, so they cut Samson's hair while he was sleeping and took him captive. But Samson's hair began to grow again. When the Philistines brought out Samson to bully at one of their feasts, he prayed to God for strength. With his bare hands, Samson pushed on the temple pillars and the roof collapsed...killing many Philistines. Samson also died that day, but God had given him great strength one last time.***

# The Story of Samson



## ACTIVITY

Select one person in your group to be on “Minnesota Cuke’s Detective Detail Team.” Choose an appropriate number of children to stand in “line up” fashion against a wall. Tell the detective to study each person carefully and then leave the room. Direct one individual to change some detail about his/her appearance. (Change bracelet or watch to opposite wrist, remove barrette, roll up sleeves, etc. For younger children, make the change more obvious.) The detective returns and tries to identify the person who made a change. Have the participants take turns being the detective and standing in the “line up.”



## What can we DO?

Talk about the story of Samson from the Bible. Remind the children that Samson’s power did not come from his hair; his power came from God. He can give US the power to love our enemies—even bullies! God doesn’t want us to “get even.” In fact, being mean back to a bully means that you are a bully, too! Try these discussion starters:

- **What should we do when someone bullies us?**
- **How can we help a friend when they are being bullied?**
- **How can we show love to a bully?**
- **Why is it a good idea to tell your parents if your are being bullied?**
- **God hasn’t given us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of courage. What does that mean?**

### Help the children find these Bible verses to read aloud.

- **Isaiah 41:10** “So do not fear, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”
- **Deuteronomy 31:6** “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.”

## 3 Things to remember about Samson

1. God instructed Samson to **NEVER CUT HIS HAIR**
2. **DELILAH** persuaded Samson to tell the secret of his strength
3. His **STRENGTH CAME FROM GOD**

## KEY VERSE

**(Matthew 5:44)** ) “But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.”

## KEY NUGGET

God gives us the power to do good to those who aren’t good to us.

