

TOGETHER IS BETTER!

SCRIPTURE:

Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up. Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm alone? And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart. (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12)

MATERIALS LIST:

(1) Rope of any kind

MAIN MESSAGE:

We can't win the Christian race by ourselves, and we can't get to heaven by ourselves! We need one another! By ourselves we are weak, together we are strong!

SONG: "Bind us Together"

LESSON:

Rope is a wonderful and handy resource for all sorts of things. I grew up around horses, and we used rope all the time. We still use rope often when my family goes camping. There is always a need to tie something down or hold something together.

Have you ever seen rope made the old-fashioned way? When I saw it done, the old man used a little device with a handle that spun three or four hooks. Each hook had a single piece of twine tied to it. Then they would crank the handle, and it spun those single twines together and twisted it into a sturdy rope. Now, if you let me try, I could tear one piece of that twine. However, to try to tear 3-4 pieces woven together would be impossible (at least for me!).

Solomon said in Ecclesiastes 4 that "two are better than one" and "a cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart." This is true with your family. You are needed, and you need everyone else in your family! There is strength in numbers. When one is weak, spiritual sick, hurt, frustrated, or down, the others are there to help and encourage. Unity in numbers is such an important part of the home as well as in the daily Christian race. Christians need Christians! Strength and encouragement from others is vital in my walk with God. This is why Paul said, "We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone" (1 Thessalonians 5:14), and "let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds" (Hebrews 10:24).

PRAYER: Unify us, Oh God, and help us to strengthen and encourage each other.