

## Empowered Fathers and Sons Bundle of Sticks

### Story:

Once upon a time, there was an old man who lived in a village with his children, a boy and a girl. Although his son and daughter were hard workers, they quarreled all the time. The old man tried to unite them but failed.

Months passed by, and the old man became sick. He asked his children to remain united, but they failed to listen to him. At that moment, the old man decided to teach them a lesson – to forget their differences and come together in unity.

The old man summoned his children, then proceeded to tell them, “I will provide you with a bundle of sticks. Separate each stick, and then break each into two. The one who finishes first will be rewarded more than the others.”

And so, the son and daughter agreed. The old man provided them with a bundle of ten sticks each, and then asked the children to break each stick into pieces. The son and daughter broke the sticks within minutes, then proceeded to quarrel among themselves again.

The old man said, “My dear children, the game is not yet over. I will now give you another bundle of sticks. Only this time, you will have to break them together as a bundle, not separately.”

The children readily agreed and then tried to break the bundle. Despite trying their best, they could not break the sticks. They told their father of their failure.

The old man said, “My dear son and daughter, see! Breaking every single stick individually was easy for you, but breaking them in a bundle, you could not do. By staying united, nobody can harm you. If you continue to quarrel, then anyone can quickly defeat you.”

The old man continued, “I ask that you stay united.” Then, the two siblings understood there’s power in unity, and promised their father they would all stay together.

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Teach, Empower and Enjoy Your Children.

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### Stop and Discuss:

How are men and women fighting with one another like this story? What can men and women do to become more unified with one another?

