

The Bundle of Sticks

A father had a family of sons who were perpetually quarreling among themselves. When he failed to heal their disputes by his exhortations, he determined to give them a practical illustration of the evils of disunion; and

for this purpose he one day told them to bring him a bundle of sticks.

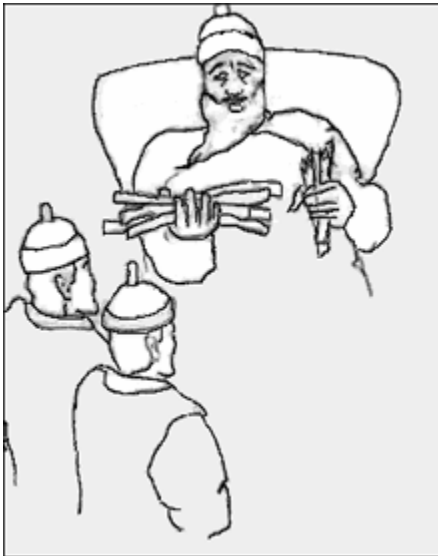


When they had done so, he placed the bundle into the hands of each of them in succession, and ordered them to break it in pieces. They tried with all their strength, and were not able to do it.



upon which they broke them easily.

He next opened the bundle, took the sticks separately, one by one, and again put them into his sons' hands,



He then addressed in these words: "My if you are of mind, and to assist each other, you will as this bundle, uninjured by the attempts your enemies; but you are

divided among yourselves, you will be broken as easily as these sticks."



them
sons,
one
unite
be
all
of
if

Message: Union gives strength.

Vocabulary:

1. Perpetual- constant, continued
2. Exhortations- a speech to advise
3. Disputes- quarrel, misunderstanding, trouble

Let's Talk:

1. What is the story all about?
2. Why did the father ask his sons to bring him a bundle of sticks?
3. Whom do the sticks represent?
4. Why couldn't the boys break the bundle of sticks?
5. What is meant by the given message of the story?