

## **Let's Fight to Stay Together – Bible Study Lesson**

### **Acts 27:31 (NASB)**

**31 Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, “Unless these men remain in the ship, you yourselves cannot be saved.”**

### **Acts 27:41-44 (NASB)**

**41 But striking a reef where two seas met, they ran the vessel aground; and the prow stuck fast and remained immovable, but the stern began to be broken up by the force of the waves.**

**42 The soldiers' plan was to kill the prisoners, so that none of them would swim away and escape;**

**43 but the centurion, wanting to bring Paul safely through, kept them from their intention, and commanded that those who could swim should jump overboard first and get to land,**

**44 and the rest should follow, some on planks, and others on various things from the ship. And so it happened that they all were brought safely to land.**

In the passage of scripture we read, the Apostle Paul was a prisoner on a ship that ran into a storm. This was no ordinary storm. It was unlike anything the mariners and sailors had ever seen. In families, there will often come times when the storms of life come at us out of the blue. Times of illness, death, financial challenges, marital issues, problem children, loss of a job or home, etc. are all things that can cause us to question everything. In times like these, we should never make rushed decisions. Often, when things go wrong, we point the finger at one another and find a reason to break up or give up. Paul, under the unction of the Holy Spirit, gives the men the formula. “If we stay together, nobody will be lost.” With this in mind, let's examine: **Let's Fight to Stay Together**

### **Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NLT)**

**12 A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.**

In times of family challenges, we must remember like Elisha told his servant, **“There are more with us than against us.”** There is a certain level of comfort that comes from knowing somebody has your back. The entire world could be coming against you, but if you can get to your family, everything will be alright. Remember, where there is unity, there is strength.

### **1. The fight is for the strength of our family.**

#### **Genesis 11:6 (NASB)**

**6 The Lord said, “Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them.**

There are many gifted, talented, and even anointed people in every family. However, what they could produce on their own, pales in comparison to what they could produce collectively. The enemy knows that if he can get you out of agreement, your family won't be able to produce. **God says, “If they work together, there is nothing they can't accomplish.”**  
Remember: We're a T.E.A.M. (Together, each achieves more.)

### **2. The fight is for the productivity of our family.**

#### **Proverbs 15:22 (NLT)**

**22 Plans go wrong for lack of advice; many advisers bring success.**

None of us can honestly say we have always made the right decisions, without the advice of others. The great thing about God is that He never gives everything to one person. He spreads gifts, talents, and resources around, so we'll learn to operate in agreement. God often deposits His greatest gifts in flawed vessels. Then, we are forced to access a perfect God through imperfect people. We believe He does this so that only God can get the glory. When we learn to work together and receive mentorship and advice, our families can be successful. **Remember: SELFISH PEOPLE END UP FAILING ALONE.**

### **3. The fight is for the destiny of our family.**

#### **Ecclesiastes 4:9-11 (NASB)**

**9 Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor.**

**10 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.**

**11 Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm alone?**

God doesn't have to reveal everything to everyone in the family if He gives it to someone in the family. He can give it to your family, through you. One of the great responsibilities God gives us is to watch out for one another. If we are going to have protected families, we should be guarding one another spiritually, physically, emotionally, and relationally. **IF WE'RE TOGETHER YOU WON'T JUST LET PEOPLE TALK ABOUT ME IN YOUR PRESENCE.**

**4. The fight is for the protection and safety of our family.**

**1 Corinthians 13:13 (NASB)**

**13 But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love.**

We should be taught many things, by our families. We should learn the ways and principles of God. However, the most important concept we should learn is **LOVE** and **HOW TO LOVE**. The interesting part is that many people love you, but it takes God to teach them how to love you correctly. **IF YOUR FAMILY DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING ELSE, THEY SHOULD KNOW YOU LOVE THEM.** More than the money, stuff, frills, and thrills, they need to experience unconditional love.

**5. The fight is for the love of our family.**

Often, when things go wrong, we point the finger at one another and find a reason to break up or give up. During these times, let's remember the words of Paul who says, "If we stay together, nobody will be lost." In our families, ministries, and relationships: **Let's Fight to Stay Together.**