

"THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP"

Act 15:36-16:34 - August 2, 2015

Message 9 of 11 in the Sermon Series "Bedtime Stories Volume 4 - The Life of the Apostle Paul"

Trying to live the Christian life without great Christian friends is trying to do the right thing... the _______1 way.

THE GREAT DECISION: Acts 15

Don't make it difficult to come to Jesus.Don't dilute what it means to follow Jesus.
1. Spiritual² Split.
The story of the early church became the importance of relationships, in spite of the reality of previous3 relationships.
Times of personal spiritual solitude are great for growth, seasons of relational4 disrupt spiritual growth.
2. New and ⁵ Relationships.
Paul didn't let relational conflict stall his spiritual development or spiritual impactbut he also didn't let spiritual isolation become his spiritual6.
Paul is so seldom found alone in scripture that you could believe his middle name was "
Christian partnerships made the good times more enjoyable and the bad times more $\underline{\hspace{1cm}}^{8}.$
Spiritual partnerships aren't just a New Testament reality, they are a New Testament $\underline{\hspace{1cm}}^9!$
3. The Blessing of ¹⁰ Faith.
It's not impossible to follow Jesus with no family support, but it's not1 either.
The is the second instance in Acts where a12 leader placed his family where God was moving and the entire family was impacted!

When the faith of your family and the faith of a friend ______13 your faith, your

The Life of Pack UDLUME 4

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faith becomes supernaturally strong!	faith becomes supernaturally strong!
Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 — "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: 10 If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up 11 Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone. 12 Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."	Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 —"Two are better the either of them falls down, one can help them up "Also, if two lie down together, Though one may be overpowered, two cbroken."
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ADDITIONAL NOTES		

¹²easy, ¹²strong, ¹³reinforce

Answers: ¹wrong, ²Relational, ³broken, ⁴isolation, ⁵lmportant, 6reality, ³and, 8bearable, 9strategy, ¹0Family,



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