

# THE STRENGTH OF TOGETHERNESS

***Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.***

*Henry Ford*

One day a father called his seven sons together so that he could teach them a valuable lesson that would help them throughout life. He wanted to demonstrate what the strength of togetherness meant.

He had already gathered a bundle of seven sticks which he had carefully tied together with a string. One by one, he asked each of his seven sons to take the bundle and try and break it. And one by one, each of the sons took their very best shot at breaking the bundle, but all failed.

At this point, the father took out a knife and cut the string and then distributed a single stick to each of the seven sons. He then repeated his request to his sons that they break the single stick in their hand, and this time each son broke the stick in their possession with great ease.

Once all the sticks had been broken, the father looked at his seven sons and said, "When you boys work together in a spirit of harmony, you resemble the bundle of sticks, and no one can defeat you; but when you quarrel among yourselves, anyone can defeat you one at a time."

**Tusculum Basketball**