

## Two Are Better Than One



*Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: 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. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.*

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

I experienced the truth of this passage again a few weeks ago.

My husband and I were each under a considerable amount of pressure and by Thursday night we were both “on our last nerve” (as Beth Moore would say).

In addition to my regular week-in / week-out duties and scheduling, I was preparing for a Canada Revenue Agency Audit of my husband's business. Bob, in addition to his regular workload, was working towards a different deadline. He had to paint a 1000+ square foot apartment before the weekend when new tenants were moving in.

Bob is not a professional painter, and I am not a certified general accountant. We were both beyond our comfort zones and areas of expertise, and the time crunch and extra pressure and inevitable unforeseen complications were wearing on us.

As we were both about to “lose it”, my family entered the picture. My mom and dad and our oldest son, Clayton, decided to roll up their sleeves and come to our rescue. Mom grabbed her calculator and highlighter pen and started matching receipts to ledger printouts. Dad and Clayton grabbed paint rollers and brushes and attacked the apartment walls alongside Bob.

By the time we crashed into bed a few hours later, our world was looking a whole lot brighter. It's amazing what a little teamwork can do.

*“Two are better than one”.*

In our individualistic culture we lose sight of this so quickly. We mistakenly think we can walk the world alone, and believe that it is somehow good and noble to do so. We are proud of being independent, and resent it when others (friends, family members, organizations like our kid's sports associations and the church) ask for help.

Weeks like this one remind me that living in isolation is not a viable option. We all need other people to make it through, and our willingness to reach out, love and help others should be one of the most visible marks of our faith.

*“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”* John 13:34-35

*Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.* 1 John 4:11-12

Are you wondering what God has for you to do this year? Ask Him to show you someone, somewhere, that you can reach out and help.

*Blessings to you today,*

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