

The Secret Power of Unity



A cord or rope braided with Three strand is not easily broken Ecclesiastes 4:12

By Jock Paleak

Introduction

- Jesus reaches for a grape branch showing signs of new spring growth, its woody Stem lies across His hand into the golden light.



- Now it begins, "I am the True Vine, and my Father is the Vinedresser" **John 15:1**.
- In the next few minutes, Jesus talk quietly about Branches and grapes and how the Vinedresser cares for His prize Vineyard.

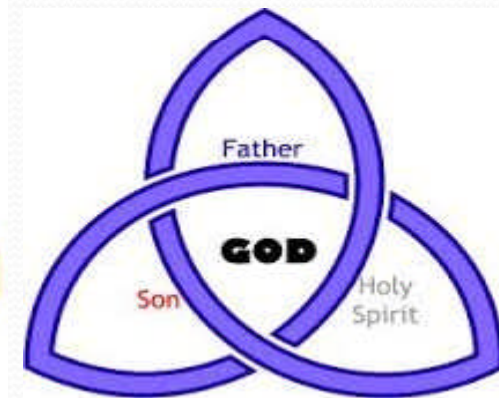
Are Pictures coming to your mind?

- Jesus loved to convey the deepest truths with simple, earthly examples.
- In His last day before His death, He wanted you and me to comprehend with our **Whole being** that He has left us on this Planet for ONE compelling reason- (**UNITY**) with production (**FRUITS**).
- **Here is the Unity of Three:**
 - 1- Father is the Vinedresser
 - 2- Jesus is the Vine
 - 3- You and I are the branches.



Are Pictures coming to your mind?

- Besides us as the branches, God present Himself to us in form of Unity.
- **Here are the Three:** God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.



- **Fruits represent:** good works, Thought, attitude, or action of ours that God values because it glorifies Him.
- **Fruits are:** Unity, Love, Peace, Kindness, gentleness, self-control etc.

Three Duties of Every Christian

- These three demonstrate the Power of Unity:

1-Giving

2-Fasting

3-Praying



If they are practiced together in the life of a believer, it creates a type of threefold cord that is not easily broken.

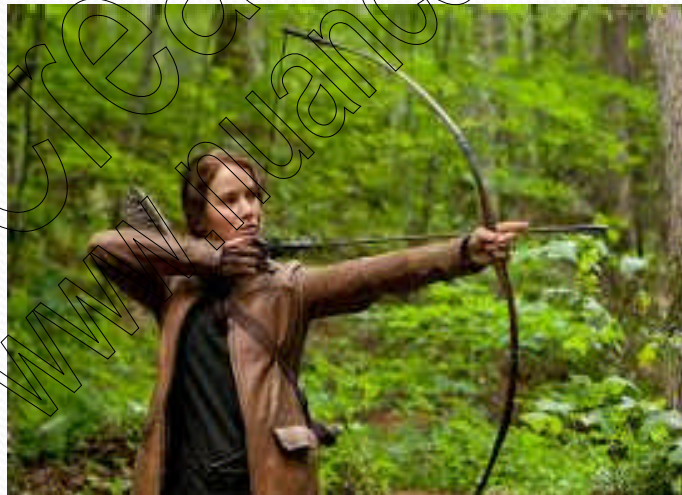
Jesus took it further by saying, “**Nothing will be impossible**” **Matthew 17:20**

The Three Duties of Every Christian

- Jesus spoke of the Thirtyfold, Sixtyfold, and Hundredfold returns.
- For **Prayer** alone_ **Thirty fold** returns
- For Prayer and **Giving**_ **Sixtyfold** returns
- For **Prayer, Giving, and Fasting**_ **Hundredfold** returns
- These Three folds returns are Truly showing us the Secret Source of **POWER OF UNITY**.
- “When you ease to make a contribution, you begin to die.” **Eleanor Roosevelt**

Bow, Bough, and Arrow

- The strength in a bow comes from the strength of the bough that forms it and the bow capacity to bend from such a weapons (ARROWS) dual strengths come greatness.



- “To keep a lamp burning, we have to keep putting oil in it.” Mother Teresa

Fishing

- The Nuer fishing harpoon.



Youth destiny or destiny for All.

- Remember Your Creator While Young.
- Ecclesiastes 11:7-10, 12:1-
- Vs.7&8. Solomon encourages us to rejoice in everyday but to remember that eternity is far longer than a person's lifespan.

“Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart to wisdom”. Psalm 9:12

The wise person does not just think about the moment and its impact; he/she takes the long-range view toward eternity. Approach Your decision from God perspective.

Youth Destiny or Destiny for All.

- Ecc. 11: 9&10
- We often hear people says, “It doesn’t matter,” but many of your *Choice will be irreversible*.
- They will stay with you for a lifetime. *What you do when you are young does matter*.
- Enjoy life now, but don’t do anything *Physically, Mentally, or Spiritually* that will prevent you from enjoying life when you are old.
- A life without God can produce a *bitter, lonely, and hopeless* old age. A life centered around God is fulfilling.

Youth Destiny or Destiny for ALL

Cont...

- A life centered around God is fulfilling.
- **Isaiah 40:30-31**, Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their **Strength**. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.
- Hoping in the Lord is expecting that his promise of **Strength** will help us to rise above life's distractions and difficulties. Supernatural Strength is given to those who wait on GOD.

Youth Destiny or Destiny for ALL

Cont.

- When disabilities, sickness, and handicaps cause barriers to enjoying life, we must satisfy because of the hope of eternal life.
- Being Young is exciting. But the excitement of Youth can become barriers to closeness with God and community if it makes young people focus on Passing pleasures instead of eternal value.
- Make your **Strength** available to **God** and **community** when it **still yours**- during Your Youth Years (**Y₃**)
- Don't waste it on evil or meaningless activities that become bad habits and make you callous.

Youth Destiny or Destiny for All

Cont...

Seek God Now.

- Ecc. 11:4,
- Waiting for perfect conditions will mean inactivity. This practical insight is especially applicable to our Spiritual life.
- If we wait for the perfect time and place for personal Bible reading, it will never begin.
- If we wait for perfect church, we will never join.
- If we wait for perfect ministry, we will never serve.
- Take steps now to grow spiritually.
- Don't for conditions that may never exist.

PEACE



- Peace is a term that most commonly refers to an absence of hostility or intend confrontation between or among individuals, between or among groups, and between nations on the basis of competing interests, different identities, and/or differing attitudes.
- How can we articulate a Vision of Peace in this tiny community?

Peace Cont.

- Peace is the freedom from disturbance. It is an occurrence of harmony.
- In **Philippians 4:7**, we have a wonderful promise, “The Peace of GOD...”
- Likewise, human reasoning is incapable of fully comprehend peace.



Peace is finding the will to understand and work with others without having the urge to reach a higher status. It's being able to talk and to listen, to get and to share, to write and to read, to watch and to accept.

Nadine, Jordan

Reconciliation



-Conflict is one of the hardest things that block the progress in both our **Secular** and **Spiritual** organizations.

- It is emotionally draining, and can result in hurt feeling and people existing.
- Each of us possesses the God-given capacity to act positive for the well-being of our society.
- Our conflicts are in **Micro-level**, and we should handle them as the family in the early stages.

Reconciliation Cont.

- Let prepare ourselves to deal wisely with differences.
- For every leadership, the basic need for individuals who would be very wise in philosophical matters would keep in the interests of the total society in mind.
- They could not do this well if they are being motivated by private interests.
- “He who has never learn to obey cannot be a good commander” Aristotle
- Whether we are leading ourselves or others, obey and courage will be called for.

Reconciliation Cont.

- We don't manage people, we manage things, we lead people.
- Great leaders don't presume their own importance but assume instead that everyone they are leading is important.
- V-shape flying birds
- A leader is not some one who rules over but is someone who lifts up.
- “A leader is a dealer in hope” **Napoleon**



Reconciliation Cont.

- Plato view for human is composed of Three main elements:
 - 1- The sense or appetite
 - 2- The spirit or will
 - 3- Intelligence or reason
- Although all of these are important. For Plato, the ultimate reality, for us as individuals or as members of this society is not in our sense or our physical attributes as humans.
- The ultimate reality is a product of human minds. This mean that reason and search for truth must be central part of all who would seek to guide his/her society to realize its highest potential.
- Unknown Author said, “What does not bend break”

In conclusion

- We are Family.
- We must resolve disagreements among ourselves Peacefully and Respectively as Robert E. Valletta put it.
- Respect the right to disagree
- Express your real concerns
- Share common goals and interests
- Open yourself to different points of view
- Listen carefully to all proposals
- Understand the major issues involved
- Think about probable consequences
- Imagine several possible alternatives
- Offer some reasonable compromises
- Negotiate mutually fair cooperative agreement

In Conclusion

- Through Unity, Peace, and Reconciliation, we must work cooperatively to turn this good society into great and better one.
- Let us all be the instruments of PEACE in our community.
- Even in time of disagreement, we would act in a Spirit of Truth and Love.
- In every level of leadership, let us play the ingredients of leadership such as Commitment, Flexibility, Patience, and Endurance.
- Benjamin Franklin said, “Well done is better than well said.”