

**Better
Together**

Together

1. To be unified, merged, or integrated
2. To be freed of difficulties because of added support

¹A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. ²They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them.

Mark 2:1-12 (NIV)

³Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them.

⁴Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on.

Mark 2:1-12 (NIV)

⁵When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” ⁶Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, ⁷“Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

Mark 2:1-12 (NIV)

• Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, “Why are you thinking these things? • Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat and walk’?”

Mark 2:1-12 (NIV)

¹⁰But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” So he said to the man, ¹¹“I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” ¹²He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”

“When you consistently add value to people, you become invaluable.”

John Maxwell

**Collective
Faith Makes
Jesus
Available**

¹How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity . . . for there the Lord bestows his blessing.

Psalm 133:1,3 (NIV)

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

Ecclesiastes 4:9 (NIV)

²⁰For where two or three gather in my name,
there am I with them.”

Matthew 18:20 (NIV)

“A Christian fellowship lives and exists by the intercession of its members for one another, or else it collapses.”

*Dietrich Bonhoeffer,
Life Together*

**Collective
Labor Makes
Everyone
Stronger**

Charles Plumb

U.S. Fighter Pilot, Vietnam War



Long after the war, a man approached him, “You’re Plumb! You flew jet fighters in Vietnam...You were shot down!”

Plumb was confused and asked how he knew. “**I packed your parachute,**” he said.

“I guess it worked!” Plumb assured him and declared, “If your chute hadn’t worked, I wouldn’t be here today.”