



## 72. 团结力量大, The Bundle of Sticks (tuán jié lì liàng dà)

yī gè lǎo rén zài lín zhōng qián zhào jí tā suǒ yǒu de hái zǐ dào tā chuáng qián l  
ái ,

一个老人在临终前召集他所有的孩子到他床前来，

An old man on the point of death summoned his sons around him

yào gěi tā men yī xiē lín bié zèng yán 。

要给他们一些临别赠言。

to give them some parting advice.



tā jiào pú rén ná lái yī kǔn ér kuài zǐ ,

他叫仆人拿来一捆儿筷子，

He ordered his servants to bring in a faggot of sticks,

bìng duì tā de zhǎng zǐ shuō : “ bǎ tā men zhé duàn ” 。

并对他的长子说：“把它们折断”。

and said to his eldest son: "Break it."

zhè gè ér zǐ yòng lì shì le yòu shì , jiù shì bù néng zhé duàn kuài zǐ 。

这个儿子用力试了又试，就是不能折断筷子。

The son strained and strained,

qí tā de ér zǐ yě zhào yàng shì guò ,

其它的儿子也照样试过，

but with all his efforts was unable to break the Bundle. The other sons also tried,

dàn shì méi yǒu yī gè rén néng chéng gōng 。

但是没有一个人能成功。

but none of them was successful.

zhè gè lǎo rén shuō : “ sōng kāi zhè kǔn kuài zǐ , měi rén ná yī zhī kuài zǐ ” 。

这个老人说：“松开这捆筷子，每人拿一支筷子”。

"Untie the faggots," said the father,



děng měi gè rén dōu ná dào zhī hòu , lǎo rén jiù fēn fu :  
等每个人都拿到之后，老人就吩咐：

"and each of you take a stick." When they had done so, he called out to them:  
"Now, break,"

“ bǎ tā zhé duàn ” 。 měi gēn kuài zǐ jiù yīng shēng ér duàn le 。

“把它折断”。每根筷子就应声而断了。

and each stick was easily broken.

fù qīn jiù shuō : “ nǐ men dōu míng bái wǒ de yì sī le ba 。”

父亲就说：“你们都明白我的意思了吧。”

"You see my meaning," said their father.

gù shì shì shuō : tuán jié jiù shì lì liàng 。

故事是说：团结就是力量。

Union gives strength.

