

Day 10 – Florida Conference Youth Ministries - Ten Days of Prayer - 2012

Many years ago two farmers were standing together discussing the strength of their draft horses. They decided it was time to have a small competition to see how much each horse could pull (and see who had the stronger horse!). Each horse was hitched to a loaded wagon. Each horse pulled about 750 pounds. That is a lot of weight!

As the contest went on a small crowd had gathered and began speculating. How much could the two pull together?

Estimates from the anxious spectators ranged from 900-1500 pounds. Obviously, together they should be able to pull more weight than they were able to pull by themselves. The two horses were hitched up to the same load and to the amazement of all present, together the horses pulled a surprising 2500 pounds! Together, they pulled almost twice the combined amount that they could each pull individually. Amazing! Each horse by itself could pull 750 pounds. But TOGETHER they were able to pull 2500 pounds. TOGETHER WE'RE STRONGER.

This year in Florida Conference Youth Ministries our theme is "Together We're Stronger." We believe that our strength comes from joining forces, working together, collaboration, cooperation, and being united in purpose. Together with God. Together with each other in community and fellowship. Together in mission and purpose. Together as one youth ministries department. United in our goal of connecting kids lives to Jesus Christ as their Savior and involving them in service to humankind.

We believe that there is no limit to what God could do in us and among us when we come together, united by His Spirit to partner with each other/God to accomplish His plans through our lives.

As we conclude these Ten Days of Prayer, I want to take you back to the story of the draft horses at the beginning of today's devotional. There is an even more incredible discovery that has been made. While each horse could pull individually about 750 pounds and together they could pull about 2500 pounds, they have found that if a team of horses is *properly trained and accustomed to working together*, they can pull in excess of **4500 pounds!** Now, that is truly amazing. There is power in working together. We are stronger when we work together. And the more we do the better we get at it. What an amazing reminder that "Together We're Stronger".

Let's use all of our strength in 2012. Strength that comes from being connected to God. Strength that comes from being connected to each other. Strength that comes from working together. Together We're Stronger.

Let's continue praying all year long for God to show us ways to continue to partner with Him and one other.

How About You? – Are you using all of your strength? Have you tapped in to the power that comes from linking our lives to Jesus Christ and allowing His Spirit to work in us? Have you tapped into the power that comes from having a team to work with and bringing various ministries together?

Pray – God, please help our campuses, help our churches, help our clubs, help our youth/young adults, help our homes, help us as individuals ... help us all to get it. Help us all to realize that together we're stronger and that when we unite we honor you. Please bless each home, each family, each campus, each church, each club, each youth group, each young adult group, every event, bless the FLORIDA Conference, bless Youth Ministries. We need you. We give you access to our lives to accomplish Your will. We want to partner with YOU and Jesus to make 2012 an incredible year of blessings, changed lives, growth, and a renewed vision. In Jesus' name, amen.