

Encounter Church
Sunday August 16, 2023

Empowered and Unstoppable
Divide and Conquer

Divide and Conquer!

"Divide and conquer" stems from the Latin maxim divide et impera (meaning "divide and rule" or "divide and command"). The strategy of maintaining power or defeating adversaries by breaking them into smaller, weaker factions emerged in ancient history, with roots often attributed to Philip II of Macedon, Julius Caesar, and Niccolò Machiavelli.

The strategy was heavily used by 19th- and 20th-century empires—such as British governance in India and European powers in Africa—to control local populations by exaggerating political, ethnic, cultural, or religious differences.

Divide and conquer was notoriously employed by Julius Caesar during the Gallic Wars. Rome maintained its massive territories by breaking down larger local power structures and preventing subjects from uniting.

It's time to get real about our relationships! You and I were created for united, powerful, healthy relationships!

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NLT)- "Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.

This is the power of our relationships!

Genesis 2:18- (NLT) "Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him."

Genesis 2:24- (NLT) "This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one."

God takes two and makes one. UNITY!!!

Have you ever noticed that the serpent didn't show up in the garden until there were two?

WHY! Because Satan wants to divide!

Your relationships are under attack!

John 10:10- (NKJV) “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

1. The enemies agenda is destruction!

Satan wants to destroy anything or anyone that glorifies God!

It's time to get real about our relationships because Satan is real!

Matthew 12:25-26- (NKJV) “But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?”

Satan and his kingdom have one agenda, destruction! To destroy everything God has established through His Kingdom which has a King and his name is Jesus!

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

2. The enemies strategy is division!

The enemy's strategy to cause destruction is division.

JESUS SAID IT HIMSELF- ***“every city or house divided against itself will not stand”***

God takes two and makes one! Satan takes one and makes two!

Devil- false accuser, slanderer, calumniator, backbiter, enemy, one who separates!

Mark 3:25- (ESV) “And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand.”

The enemies goal is to separate!

Just because you live in the same house it doesn't mean you're united!

The enemies agenda is destruction! His strategy is division!

3. The enemies tactic is those little offenses.

The reason it's so easy for some of you to be unhappy is because it's so easy for you to be offended!

Our enemy is very strategic! It happens one offense at a time!

The closer the relationship the greater the opportunity for offense. No-body can make you really mad like somebody you really love!

Satan divides one offense at a time building up to destruction!

YOUR RELATIONSHIPS ARE UNDER ATTACK! One little offense at a time!

Matthew 5:23-24- (MSG) "This is how I want you to conduct yourself in these matters. If you enter your place of worship and, about to make an offering, you suddenly remember a grudge a friend has against you, abandon your offering, leave immediately, go to this friend and make things right. Then and only then, come back and work things out with God."

Don't be a prisoner to your offense!

Are you united in your relationships. Marriage? Workplace? Church?

Amos 3:3 (NKJV)- "Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?"

Satan's agenda is destruction. His strategy is division. His tactic is offense.

What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this message?