

SERMON SERIES FROM HIGH POINT CHURCH

SUSTAINING

UNITY

STICKING TOGETHER
IN FRACTIOUS TIMES

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Being unified is an *unending battle.*

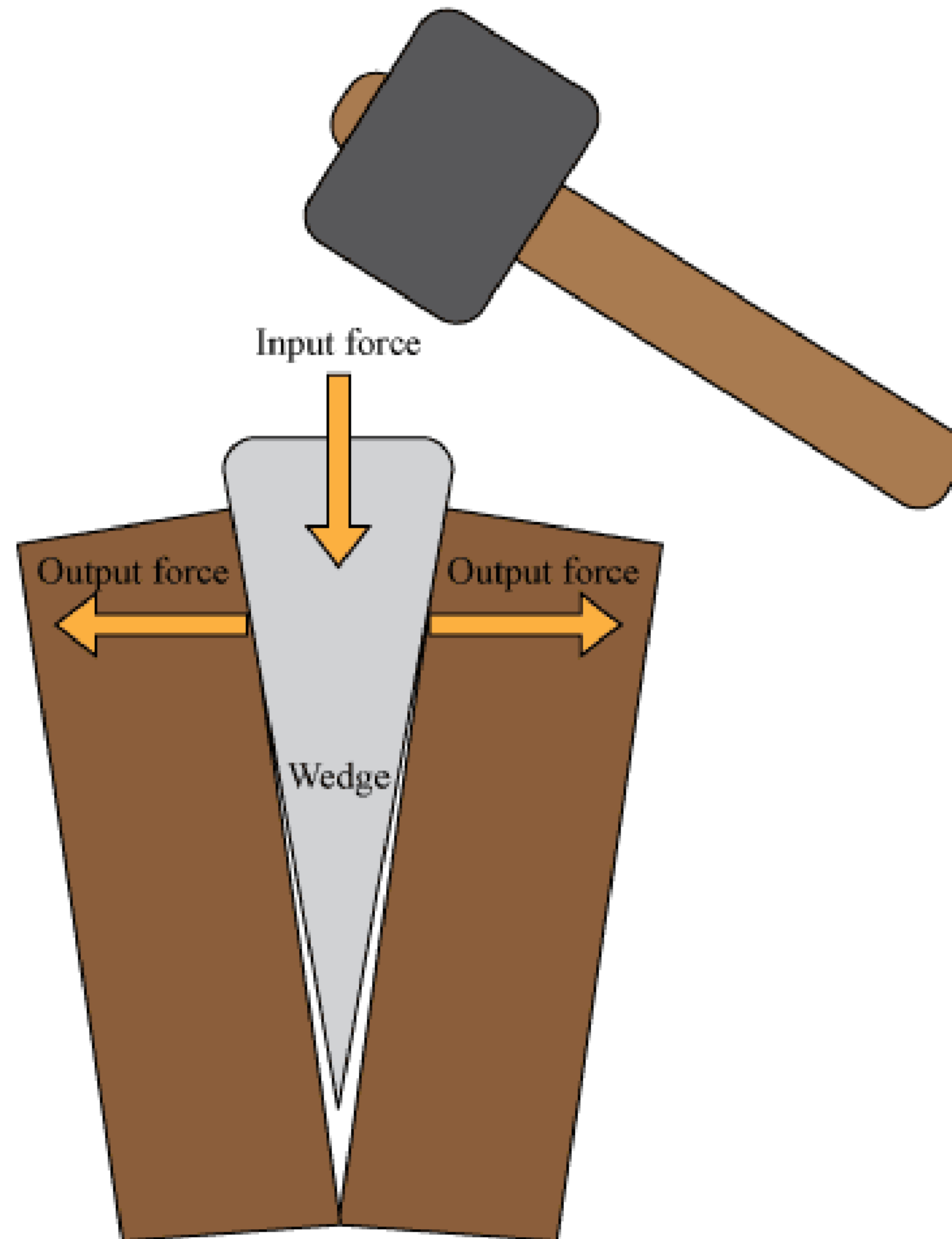


Being unified is an unending battle.

Relationships are *really hard*.



Relational wedges



**Relational wedges often go unspoken
but rarely go unnoticed.**



We make peace with this lack of peace.



**Blessed are the *peacemakers*,
for they shall be called children of God.
– Matthew 5:9**



**People at peace with God
make peace with one another.**

People at peace with God make peace with one another.

People at peace with God make peace with one another.

Are *you* a peacemaker?

We often choose peace *keeping*
over peace *making*



People at peace with God make peace with one another.

The two practices of peacemakers:

So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.
– Matthew 5:23 – 24



So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.
– Matthew 5:23 – 24

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. – James 5:16



People at peace with God make peace with one another.

The two practices of peacemakers:

People at peace with God make peace with one another.

The two practices of peacemakers:

1. Own up

People at peace with God make peace with one another.

The two practices of peacemakers:

1. Own up—quickly

People at peace with God make peace with one another.

The two practices of peacemakers:

1. Own up—quickly and completely

People at peace with God make peace with one another.

The two practices of peacemakers:

1. Own up

21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"



21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

22 Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but *seventy-seven times*. – Matt. 18: 21 – 22



23 "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to **settle accounts** with his servants. 24 As he began the settlement, a man who **owed him** ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. 25 Since he was not able **to pay**, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to **repay the debt**.

26 "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will **pay back everything**.' 27 The servant's master took pity on him, **canceled the debt** and let him go.

28 "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. '**Pay back what you owe me!**' he demanded.

29 "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will **pay it back**.'

30 "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. 31 When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

32 "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I **canceled all that debt** of yours because you begged me to. 33 Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' 34 In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he **should pay back all he owed**.

35 "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you **forgive** your brother or sister from your heart."



People at peace with God make peace with one another.

The two practices of peacemakers:

1. Own up

People at peace with God make peace with one another.

The two practices of peacemakers:

1. Own up

2. Give it up

People at peace with God make peace with one another.

The two practices of peacemakers:

1. Own up

2. Give it up—Lean on the Lord

People at peace with God make peace with one another.

The two practices of peacemakers:

1. Own up

2. Give it up—Find the facts

People at peace with God make peace with one another.

The two practices of peacemakers:

1. Own up

2. Give it up—Recognize the reverse

**People at peace with God
make peace with one another.**

**People at peace with God
make peace with one another.**

**If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live
at peace with everyone. – Romans 12:18**

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