

# mercEmail

A Weekly Devotional from the  
South Green Street Church of Christ

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## The Chicorelli Brothers

by Steve Higginbotham

I was in fourth grade when the Chicorelli brothers announced to me one day that they were going to "beat me up" after school. I didn't know why they'd want to do a thing like that. I was a sweet little boy, just ask my mother. They were both a year older than me and I didn't really even know them. Anyway, I had the rest of the day to think about what was going to transpire after school.

My mind began to race. How could I avoid this fight? Then it came to me. When school let out, I'd make sure that several of my friends were with me, and we'd walk home together. They'd never try anything against all of us together. And I was right. I never had that confrontation with the Chicorelli brothers.

But now, here's the point. As a fourth grader, I knew what to do when I was facing trouble...surround myself with friends. However, let the Devil begin to pick on someone and what's the first thing they do? They quit attending worship services. They isolate themselves from their friends. They play right into the hands of the Devil.

Take it from the experience of a fourth grader who knows. If you're having trouble, don't isolate yourself, rather surround yourself with friends who will give you strength when you are weak.

Give it some thought.