

## Together!

There was once a Chief who invited his people to a very big banquet. People travelled far and wide to the banquet - they wore their best clothes and brought a tribute for the Chief. The Chief was very glad because he wanted to see his kingdom, the family of people that he ruled over.

After a couple of days he noticed that many of the people in his tribe argued. They argued over who was the best at keeping tradition, who sang the best songs. They even argued with people from the same village. He realised that the people rarely came together and were divided.

The Chief was very disturbed by this and so he decided to do something about it.

One night he assembled the leaders of his people in a great hall. Above, he suspended a dagger from the ceiling. He said that the man who could reach the dagger could become chief. He would give his entire Kingdom to him.

The leaders were very surprised and eagerly started to fight one another. Each one of them tried to climb the wall, but failed. Many of them were so busy fighting, that they forgot about getting the dagger completely. After an hour of this, everyone was exhausted and discouraged.

Then the wise Chief said, "Why do you think that no one could do this task? It is impossible, the ceiling is too high for you to reach." He then assembled five men to stand on the ground, then three to stand on their shoulders, then two more on top of them. The leaders did as they were told, but they still could not reach. Then, the Chief himself climbed to the top and reached the dagger himself.

It took everyone together to reach the dagger. Even the Chief himself needed the help of the others to succeed.

Ephesians 2:19-22 shows us this is often the church: "Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household."

### Put it into Action!

Why not invite some people together who are from different churches and different parts of the community.

Simply having a meal, praying together, spending some time together will be enough to help realise that you are stronger together.

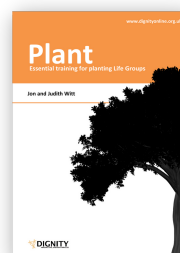
### Pray that:

- 1) There will be resolutions to any conflict within your community.
- 2) Your heart will be filled with compassion for those around you.
- 3) Success will come when working together.



"I have seen that what is killing us in our communities are 'religious issues'. We must put these aside and be based only on Jesus Christ."

**- Moses, Katima Mulilo, Namibia**



This lesson is taken from "Life is through the Family" a lesson found in Plant.

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