

## Everyone Has A Place

There once grew an enormous cabbage on a farm. The farmer could not wait to pull it out, it was so large and would sell for a lot of money.

When it was ready, the farmer decided to pull it out. He pulled, he pulled and he pulled, but he couldn't pull the cabbage out! "I will go and get my wife," the farmer said, because he realised he needed help.

The farmer and his wife pulled at the enormous cabbage, but still, they couldn't pull it out! "I will go and get my son," the wife said, because they realised they needed help. But he too could not help them pull it out. They asked the sister, the dog and the cat to help. But despite their best efforts, they could not pull the enormous cabbage out.

Finally, they had to ask the last available animal, a lowly mouse for help. The mouse is so small, they didn't really believe it could add much strength to the effort.

But, when the mouse joined in, the cabbage began to move. All together, they had just enough strength to pull the cabbage loose from the ground.

People often say that this story is about teamwork, which is correct. But it is also about how important the effort and contribution of the smallest and seeming most insignificant individual really is. It's a great picture of what the effort and community of the church should look like. Think of these words from 1 Corinthians 12:21-24:

"The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I don't need you!' And the head cannot say to the feet, 'I don't need you!' On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honourable we treat with special honour. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honour to the parts that lacked it..."

Everyone is valuable and equal in the community of Jesus,.

### Put it into Action!

Whether you have leaders, non-leaders, 'important' people or less 'important' people in your Life group or community, decide to treat everyone equally.

Honour the people who are usually overlooked. Encourage them, give them a gift, publicly thank them for their help and involvement.

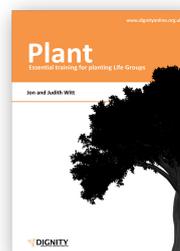
### Pray that:

- 1) God will show you how important you are to your community.
- 2) Your community leaders will encourage you to work together.



"It may seem that what we are doing might seem nothing or nonsense to some, but I mean it is so important. It is building our communities, its bringing a change in our communities, simple as it may appear."

**- Gervas, Central Province, Zambia**



This lesson is taken from "Everyone is Welcome" a lesson found in Plant.

Find out more at:

**[dignityonline.org.uk/publications](https://dignityonline.org.uk/publications)**