INTRODUCTION
Everyone wants to feel needed. After all, the alternative is feeling unneeded . . . dispensible. And no one likes to feel like he or she doesn’t matter. There’s nothing super about being superfluous. We go to college, learn new skills, attend leadership conferences, and take on additional projects in order to become indispensible. But becoming truly indispensible is hard. Most of us carry insecurities that we aren’t really needed.

Here’s some good news: Jesus started a movement called the church. You have a role to play in that movement. And your role is indispensible. The church is one place where you can’t be replaced.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In what places in life do you feel indispensible or essential? Why do you feel that way?

2. Talk about a time when you felt or were treated as expendable. What did you do?

3. Do you agree that everyone at church should be equally valued? Why or why not?

4. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12–22. Are there any places in life where you see the kind of unity the apostle Paul talks about in this passage? Do you see that kind of unity at church? Explain.

5. What are some of the costs when people focus on the talents and gifts they wish they had instead of the ones they actually have?

6. What is your best next step in playing your part in the church—connecting in a group, serving on a team, giving a percentage, or inviting a friend? What is one thing you can do this week to begin to take that step? How can this group support you?

MOVING FORWARD
You are indispensible to this body called “the church.” It can’t function optimally if you don’t play your part. That’s true whether you know it or not, believe it or not, or feel it or not. You can do four things to be a part of this body: connect in a group, serve on a team, give a percentage, invite a friend.

CHANGING YOUR MIND
Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.
1 Corinthians 12:12-13