



The Acting Bishop of Lincoln

December 2022

Dear Friends,

I am a Minecraft bishop. A ten-year-old fan of Minecraft has created my identity. I am an unusually big man, so he wanted to make me a big bishop, but all the human beings on Minecraft are the same size. I was pleased to be brought down to size. At Christmas we celebrate that Jesus is born as a fragile baby. God comes down to our human size to become one of us.

If God was prepared to do this, we see just how important it is to be really human. Minecraft is fun and creative, but I prefer to be seen as a person of flesh and blood who relates to other real people. God became a human being because God would never give up loving us. Not only at Christmas but all the year round I hope that we can see what being really human means. It means being loving and kind and being ready to be happy to know people very different from us and want the very best for them.

Of course we come in all sorts of shapes, sizes, colours and outlooks. By the time I was in Year 4, I was already 1.5m tall and I sometimes felt out of place and awkward. Maybe you feel the same for whatever reason. At Christmas we can be sure that Jesus is with us and likes us whatever we are like and loves us even when we don't love ourselves very much.

Yours ever in Christ,

The Rt Revd Stephen Conway
Bishop of Ely
Acting Bishop of Lincoln