

As One At 10 - Welcome

6th September 2020

Good morning everyone and welcome to As One at 10. I wonder as we come to the end of the summer and move into a new term whether you feel at peace about the weeks ahead or fearful? There's no question it's a challenging time for all of us, especially when restrictions and regulations around the virus change daily.

I seem to find myself going up and down! There are times when I look back and can see clearly God's hand powerfully at work in the months past, and how he has held me and my family and us as a church family through such a difficult time.

But then, there were times over the last 6 months when I have felt fearful. As we arrive in September some of those fears continue to raise their heads! Will we have another spike? Will we be wearing masks and social distancing for months and months to come...will my elderly parents catch the virus, or will I and pass it on to those that I love.

As Tim comes to talk to us this morning about Fear....I am reminded of the first verse of Psalm 112 which says this.

"Praise the Lord!

Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who find great delight in his commands!"

For me, it is wonderful to be reminded to fear the Lord and no one else – Fear and respect him in awe because he is completely loving and completely good – you see nothing compares to him and to his might and nothing can thwart his purposes and plans. He has got this...He has got these next few months, and he has got this as we seek next week to re-gather as a church family for worship, prayer and to listen to His Word. He has got our children as they head to school, to university and as we begin to find ways to begin our children's work at church again. He has got you and I ... lovingly held in the palm of His hand. The more I read his word, the more I am reminded of this and the more I pray I will fear the Lord and no one else.

Father, we pray this morning as we come to you that we might be not only be lovingly rebuked for the times when we have let the fears of the world over take us, but also encouraged and reminded of the wonder of your love for us, that you are the keeper of all promises and that you are always and forever trustworthy and always to be feared. Praise the Lord. Amen.