

QUARANTINE REFLECTION 4

As we enter into week two of this partial lockdown we have to hope that the experts advising us correctly and we further hope and have faith that this will be over in the timescale advised.

I've made mention in my online prayer groups of the unexpected times we are each living with and how we could never have foretold this when just a little over five weeks ago we were about to enter into lent, the only thing we were panic buying then was flour, eggs, milk and lemons. I doubt any of us imagined what was about to happen as the virus took hold of our country and the huge waves of uncertainty and confusion that came along with it.

Most of us will struggle with this uncertainty partly because we live in a time when we are bombarded by 'Facts' - we are fed these portions of facts from all directions, quite a lot from social media. Much of those statements of fact will be true but quite a number will be quite frankly just nonsense but many of them dressed up so well that you would be forgiven for believing the information displayed to be true. I seek clarity with most things I read online and certainly as far as this virus goes I take almost everything with a pinch of salt, government site, the NHS and the WHO are the only ones I currently pay any attention to. I seek Clarity - this isn't a new thing it's something I've done for a few years now, especially as a lot of 'facts' I've been fed have been regarding things I could try to cure my RA.

While it is good to get clarity through fact checking it can sometimes get in the way of trust. I have been known to allow that need for clarification to sometimes be a hindrance on my faith journey where I forget to trust in God. Trusting God isn't always as easy as it ought to be - we introduce many hurdles as we travel through our faith journeys that we every now and again have to stop take a deep breath and trust in him and allow that calm to envelop is.

Hebrews 11 is titled BY FAITH and in there we read of those who by faith trusted in God even if they were unsure of even knowing what the outcomes would be - Noah building an ark, Abraham & Sarah, Issac, the parents of Moses are but a few mentioned in that chapter. The common denominator was trust, they trusted with no clarity as to why God was asking them to build the ark or trust in the promise of parenthood or trust that their child would be saved from the king's edict.

They trusted God and when we let go of those things that can blinker us and trust God it is then that we can so often find the calm in the storm and the need for always having clarity and control in all things.

So in this time when we are not in control of our own movements and where we can go and who we can visit. And so as we cannot chart our own course take a deep breath and trust in God and take strength and comfort in those words from Hebrews, it also reminds us that when those moments of clarity are terribly clouded out trust in Him will be strengthened.

Stay safe

PSALM 62:8

Trust in him at all times you people, Pour out your hearts before him. God is a refuge for us.

