



THINK ON THESE THINGS.....

Reading: 2 Tim 4:2

² preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage – with great patience and careful instruction.

Reflection:

From 10am this morning I will be attending the Festival of Preaching conference to be held at Christ Church, Oxford. However instead of being physically present, this time I will be sitting in front of my computer, listening to a list of eminent preachers from around the world doing what they do best!

Over the years I have really enjoyed attending conferences like this, which have provided wonderful opportunities to listen to the many varied ways these excellent preachers communicate God's word to a modern-day generation. There have been many I could sit and listen to for hours on end, always being amazed not only at the way they are able to bring the biblical texts to life, but also how they communicate so easily with their listeners.

Although I will never reach the heights of these brilliant preachers, I take comfort in knowing that I have been part of yet another generation of those felt called to speak God's living word into the hearts and lives of people. Paul obviously felt exactly the same as he encouraged his young disciple Timothy with these words – “preach the word, in season and out of season.”

As we continue to deal with the consequences of this pandemic, I, together with many other preachers, have certainly had to learn new ways how to communicate God's word! I hope and trust that that same word will continue not only to be heard, but also to be acted on as all of God's people respond to His call in new ways in their lives.

Breath - Prayer for Today: Thank you Lord Jesus for your living word, that continues to encourage and challenge us in both the good and the bad times of our lives.