

COMBINED WORSHIP

24 December 2006

Title: "Fear not, I am with you"

Text: Isaiah 41:10; Luke 1, 2

(I) FEAR- THE PROBLEM OFTEN NOT DEALT WITH THOROUGHLY

1. An innate problem
2. A deep-seated problem
3. A problem often not well dealt with
4. A problem that can well break a person down completely

(II) FEATURES OF FEAR NOT DEALT WITH

1. Dismay at the prospect of war Isaiah 41:10-12

"But thus is a people robbed and plundered..." Isaiah 42:22

2. Discouragement from trials of life

*"When you pass through the waters...
When you walk through the fire..." Isaiah 43:2*

(III) FIGHTING FEAR SUCCESSFULLY

"Fear not, for I am with you..." Isaiah 41:10; 43:5

"Do not fear, nor be afraid..." Isaiah 44:8

"Do not be afraid..." Luke 1:13; 2:10

1. Promise of God
2. Presence of God
3. Power of God
4. Proofs: These may be found in the lives of those who have trusted

- a) In Biblical times
 - i) Servants of God
 - ii) History of Israel
 - iii) History of the Church
- b) In present times

(IV) FEARLESS APPROACH TO LIFE TO BE DEVELOPED

1. Focus on Faith in God's Word

"Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people" Luke 2:10

2. Focus on Jesus the Saviour

"For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord" Luke 2:11

3. Focus on Facts

"And this will be a sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger" Luke 2:12

4. Fulness of Joy

"Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them" Luke 2:20