

# Letter from the Minister

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Dear Friends,

It is going to be a quiet month in my house through the first half of October as three members of my family depart with other members of the church to Sierra Leone. They are going to be meeting people, finding out about their lives and sharing God's love through practical work and by witness. I hope that that you will encourage those who are going, pray for them and show an interest in what has happened there when they get back.

Spending some time in a foreign land and a different culture always causes us to listen carefully and not be too quick to jump to conclusions. I am however, amazed how often I encounter situations when different people have heard the same thing but remember it differently. We have started a monthly training session and for the first two months the theme is 'Just listen' which I hope will be a great help to the people who have registered for the course.

I wonder how well we actually listen, to the culture around us, to each other and most importantly to God. Someone once said that God has given us two ears and one mouth for a reason but that doesn't get us very far. In John chapter 10, Jesus speaks about himself as being the Good Shepherd and that the sheep of his flock listen to his voice. May I ask you which people have influence in your life and which voices do you pay heed to?

It has been really good to welcome our new Youth Worker, James Willett and his family amongst us and I hope that you will support them, befriend them and play your part as you are able in our witness to and care of young people.

I would also encourage you to pray for and support all those who are called to positions of leadership at Cornerstone. Leadership is a privilege and responsibility. It is the responsibility of the whole church family to allow this to happen by our actions and attitudes, even perhaps when not everything goes as we would like.

Maybe you are relatively new to the fellowship life at Cornerstone and you are thinking about ways you can get more involved and to serve him some way. Find the right person to speak to and you will find lots of opportunities to grow in faith and service.

It was good, during September, to celebrate ten years as Cornerstone in a new building and of course I have served as minister for ten years. As we continue to seek to be faithful in mission and ministry may I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued love and support.

May God bless you all through this month.

Yours in Christ

*Eddie*