

The Thumb of Fear

by John E. Phelan Jr., p. 51

The Hope of Scripture in a World That Tries to Terrify

1. In what ways does poetry speak to you?
2. Mary Oliver is quoted as saying, “After the excitement we are so restless. When the thumb of fear lifts, we are so alive.” What personal experience with fear does this quote bring to mind for you?
3. What situations in your surrounding culture cause you the most fear?
4. First John says, “There is no fear in love.” What do we as Christians need to do to live into that statement?
5. John E. Phelan Jr. says we are to love the “alienated and irritating.” What steps do you need to take this week to accomplish that goal?