



Broadfield Christian Fellowship

Broadfield Community Centre, Broadfield Barton, Crawley. Reg. Charity no. 1081321

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NewsFlash!



Sunday 14th February 2016

This morning	10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall <i>Worship: Vivienne Evans; Speaker: David Evans</i>
<hr/> <i>We offer a warm welcome to all visitors to our worship today</i> <i>If you want to know the location of any of the meetings, please ask the host or one of the leaders</i> <hr/>	
Tuesday	2.30pm: Service of celebration of the life of Tina Wheelhouse (née Gordon) at Crawley Baptist Church – all welcome 7.00pm: House Group at Caroline's home 7.45pm: House Group at Ben & Pauline's home
Wednesday	7.00pm: House Group at Diane's home
Friday	5.00pm: Friday Meal in the Social Hall
Next Sunday	9.00am: Open up and set up hall for worship 9.30am: Prayer meeting 10.00am: Tea and coffee 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall, including communion <i>Worship: Vivienne Evans; Speaker: Ian Johnson</i>

Thought for the Week – from Caroline

James 4:7 "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

We are going through the book *Pilgrims Progress* in House Group, John Bunyan's famous allegory of our Christian journey through life. Christian in the book has read the Bible and discovered his sinfulness and wants to be saved, he has left his city of destruction where he lives (our worldly system) and has set off on a spiritual journey encouraged by Evangelist to find the City of Zion (His heavenly Kingdom, the promised land). He goes through many trials and snares on his journey as well as finding places for strength, encouragement and rest. He has shed his burdens at the cross and been on a high point but now he is going into the valley of Humility where he comes face to face with a hideous monster called Apollyon (Greek for "destroyer") who is in fact the Devil himself. Now the Devil, who is very angry, asks Christian where he has come from and where he is going. Christian replies that he is from the City of Destruction going to the City of Zion. The Devil promptly tells Christian that he is one of his subjects as all who live in the City of Destruction belong to him. Christian answers, "I was indeed born in your dominion, but your service was too hard, and your wages were such that no one could live on them, for the wages of sin are death. Therefore when I had the opportunity, I did like many others – I left that miserable country to find a better life."

The Devil goes on to confront Christian in many ways in order to weaken his resolve so that when actual battle commences he can go in for the kill. One of many tactics the Devil uses is to point out to Christian how he has already been unfaithful to his new King in order to shame Christian and point out his sin. The Devil says to him, "But you have already been unfaithful to Him." Christian responds, "Where have I been unfaithful to Him?" Now Apollyon (the Devil), seizing his chance to bring him down further, tells Christian, "You fell into the Slough of Despond (a place of depression and struggle), you turned aside to go to the house of Legality (he listened to a worldly Christian's advice), you slept and lost your book (he rested when he should have been persevering and left his Bible behind)." He almost gave in to fear, and the Devil told him he was full of pride when he recounted what God had done for him.

Now, all the the Devil accused and condemned Christian of was actually true. The Devil doesn't have any rules of war or conventions to follow, he can do and say anything he wants, he can mix truth with lies or just plain lie, he can distort, use the truth of a situation — anything. Momentarily, Christian had forgotten all these failings when he answered, "Where have I been unfaithful?" and had he batted it off, argued or denied it he would indeed have been in trouble, but he took responsibility for his failings and said, "Yes, all this is true, and much more which you have left out, but the Prince I serve is merciful and ready to forgive." With that the Devil flew into a rage and battle commenced ... you will need to read the book to see what happens after this.

Walking in the light – 1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." Be honest with God and take responsibility.

Diary Dates

Friday 18th–Sunday 20th March: Church Weekend at Ashburnham Place with Abi Willetts. Booking forms are on the tables and Irma is collecting them with any payments.

Saturday 30th July–Saturday 6th August: Revive! 2016, "New Day Dawning." Brochures are on the tables, there is a 10% discount for bookings made and paid for by 31st March. Book at www.ichthus.org.uk/revive.