



# Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

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## NewsFlash!



### Easter Sunday / 3rd April 2016

**This morning** 10.30am: Easter Family Worship in the Social Hall  
*Worship: Vivienne Evans; Speaker: David Evans*

*We offer a warm welcome to all visitors to our worship today*

*If you want to know the location of any of the meetings, please ask the host or one of the leaders*

**Tuesday** 7.00pm: House Group at Caroline's home  
7.45pm: House Group at Ben & Pauline's home

**Friday** 5.00pm: Friday Meal in the Social Hall

**Sunday 3 Apr** 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

*Worship: Kevin Gordon; Speaker: Ian Johnson*

7.00pm: Town-wide service at Crawley Baptist Church

**Monday 4 Apr** 6.30pm: Prayer time in the Church

**Tuesday 5 Apr** 7.00pm: House Group at Caroline's home

7.45pm: House Group at Ben & Pauline's home

**Friday 8 Apr** 5.00pm: Friday Meal in the Social Hall

**Sunday 10 Apr** 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

*Worship: Vivienne Evans; Speaker: David Evans*

#### Thought for the Week – from Caroline

Every Easter I try to talk about a different aspect of the Easter story apart from the obvious fact that Jesus died to save us all and He rose again, also our faith would be meaningless if He hadn't. "And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith." (1 Corinthians 15:14)

This time I am curious about Herod becoming friends with Pilate. "That day Herod and Pilate became friends – before this they had been enemies." (Luke 23:12) It doesn't make clear anywhere why this was so I can only put my slant on it from what I have read and others have suggested.

Pontius Pilate had a dilemma on his hands as he didn't want to crucify Jesus, so on learning that Jesus was a Galilean he decided to pass the problem onto Herod Antipas, the Roman appointed ruler of Galilee. Bear in mind that this Herod is the man who beheaded John the Baptist, who was in an adulterous marriage with his brother's wife and whose father Herod the Great ordered the massacre of the baby boys after Jesus was born. It pleased Herod that Pilate was sending Jesus to him as he had wanted to see Jesus for a long time and was hoping to see Him perform a miracle. He asked Jesus many questions but Jesus gave him no answers. So Herod and the soldiers then ridiculed and mocked Him and sent Him back to Pilate – and that,

strangely, is when Herod and Pilate become friends. Both men were curious and drawn to the teachings of Jesus; Herod would enjoy spending time talking to John the Baptist and deep down both Herod and Pontius Pilate knew Jesus was a righteous and Holy man but they were evil manipulative powerful men; it says in Acts 4:27 that they united against Jesus. Pontius Pilate tried to wash his guilt and sin away by washing his hands but we all know that is not how it works. Herod wanted to meet Jesus face to face, wanted Him to perform a miracle for him, wanted Jesus to meet him on his terms, but Jesus doesn't respond to a demanding unrepentant heart. Had Herod asked questions from a genuine seeking heart and asked for forgiveness and mercy Jesus would not have remained silent.

So I deduce that their friendship developed from a united feeling that they had justified themselves and how they handled Jesus and now they could be rid of the problem. Pontius Pilate gave into his fear of man rather than seek Jesus further and Herod couldn't be bothered with Jesus once he didn't meet his expectations and demands.

"Jesus, please help us not to put fear of people first or think we can simply wash our hands of a problem that You want us to deal with, and help us not to be demanding and expect you to perform for us. Help us always to seek You first."

#### Diary Dates

**Saturday 30th July–Saturday 6th August:** Revive! 2016, "New Day Dawning" with Heidi Baker and Less Isaacs. Brochures are on the tables – book at [www.ichthus.org.uk/revive](http://www.ichthus.org.uk/revive).