



# Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

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## NewsFlash!

### Sunday 29th May 2016

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

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*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*

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

**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  
*Worship: Kevin Gordon; Speaker: Sheila Kilkenny*  
7.00pm: Town-wide service at Crawley Baptist Church

### Thought for the Week – from Caroline

#### Ecclesiastes 7:21-22

*Do not pay attention to every word people say,  
or you may hear your servant cursing you –  
for you know in your heart  
that many times you yourself have cursed others.*

I was wondering and asking God what I should write for the Thought for the Week, then I was thinking about how, over the years, the Lord has taught me so much about myself and other people and taught me to understand people better and get less offended. I came across this scripture in Ecclesiastes that I have never read before and then 15 minutes later it cropped up again so I reckon this is what the Lord wants me to talk about. I don't think having empathy, sensitivity towards others and a sensitive spirit is the same as being overly sensitive and easily offended. Being easily offended can stem from insecurity, low self esteem, lack of confidence; or pride and too much focus on self, also a lack of understanding of others. Personalities obviously play a big part, as does emotional damage, all of which God will be working on in you over your lifetime in ways unique to you. People may profess that they don't care what other people think but I am not sure that they are being completely honest with themselves – only God knows and He knows what other flaws they may have that need His attention. He knows why you react as you do; He knows what you need to learn; He knows the very best way to accomplish that in you; He wants you to trust Him and not your old ways of handling people and situations; He wants you to have His perceptions and not to assume; He wants you not to judge others on your own understanding but to learn about others from His perspective; He wants you to die to self and know what that means (that's a life-long mission); He wants you be so sure of His love and care so that you really will be less bothered about what others think; He wants you to stop proclaiming, "well, I know what he/she is thinking," because you can't possibly know what's in somebody else's mind unless God has specifically told you. **John2:24** *But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all people.*

Sometimes people are just so objectionable that it's hard not to react angrily towards them but we don't know what's going on in their lives and once we have calmed down we can talk to the Lord or a trusted friend about it. Very often people don't intend to offend us or they don't have a clue about how they are coming across. I was waiting at the counter to get my ticket at K2 the other day when a man came in and immediately went to the other counter. The lady in front of me told him off in no uncertain terms but I felt sorry for him as his face just said to me he really didn't know what he had done wrong. This, as always, is only a very basic thought on a big subject, but in this politically correct climate people are getting offended far too easily without really having any tolerance or understanding of others. I read this: "Next time you find yourself taking offence at something, try to imagine yourself in the other person's situation. Remind yourself that he or she may not be coming from the same perspective as you. What seemed like a huge offence may no longer be one."

### 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).