



# Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

( 01444 400521 – Email: [fellowship@broadfield.org.uk](mailto:fellowship@broadfield.org.uk) – Web: [www.broadfield.org.uk](http://www.broadfield.org.uk)

## NewsFlash!



### Sunday 9th October 2016

**This morning** 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall  
*Worship: Vivienne Evans; Speaker: Lizzie Ashley (Lighthouse Project)*

*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*

<b>Monday</b>	6.30pm: Prayer time in the Church
<b>Tuesday</b>	7.00pm: House Group at Caroline's home 7.45pm: House Group at Ben & Pauline's home
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.30am: Coffee Shop in the Social Hall
<b>Thursday</b>	1.00pm: Celebration of the life of Jim Cottington at St Andrew's, Furnace Green
<b>Friday</b>	2.30pm: Dave Time in the Church Quiet Room 5.00pm: Friday Meal in the Social Hall
<b>Next Sunday</b>	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 <i>Led by Ian's House Group, also featuring New Generation Performing Arts</i>

### Jim Cottington

God called Home Pastor Jim Cottington of Crawley New Life Church on the 24th September 2016.

His Celebration service will be on Thursday 13th October 2016:

11.30am – Snell Hatch Cemetery, Crawley, RH11 7JG (all are invited).

1.00pm – Celebration Service at St Andrew's Church, Weald Drive, Crawley, RH10 6NU (all are invited).

Following the Celebration Service there will be food and refreshments at Crawley New Life Church, The Glade, RH10 6JL (all are invited).

Parking is limited at St Andrew's Church, so you may also want to consider parking at the Crawley New Life Church or on nearby roads. St Andrew's Church and Crawley New Life Church are about 400 metres apart.

There will be tea and coffee at St Andrews Church before the Celebration Service starts at 1pm.

This is a celebration of Jim's life. We understand you may want to wear black but don't feel you have to as many won't be.

If you would like to donate money instead of flowers, then we will be donating any money to the Organisations in India that Jim worked with these past 15 years. Cheques should be made payable to Jordan and Sullivan.

### British Museum Trip

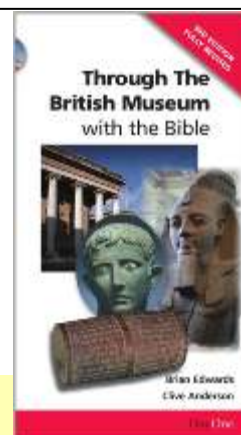
Mike Keeping is organising these trips with Elim church and has invited us to join them. They will be using the book *Through the British Museum with the Bible* as a guide.

**Saturday 22nd October and/or 12th November, 09.05 at Three Bridges Station**

Group fare £9.00

Contact Mike at [mike@keeping.freeuk.com](mailto:mike@keeping.freeuk.com)

See overleaf for  
Thought for the Week



### Diary Dates

**Sunday 20th November**, 5.00pm: Christ the King Songs of Praise in the Church, followed by a shared meal

**Friday 7th–Sunday 9th April 2017**: Church Weekend at Ashburnham Place with Jon and Emily Darby

## Thought for the Week – from Caroline

### 1. **God isn't Santa.**

Dr. David Pendergrass articulated this hard truth well when he said this: "God is not a cosmic Santa Claus." You don't get put on the nice list for doing the right things and, in turn, get whatever your heart desires from God.

### 2. **You won't always be healed.**

There is so much good in praying for healing — healing for others and for ourselves.

And while it is true that God is able to heal, he's not obligated to. Think about it: if God were obligated to heal and answer every prayer of healing, no one would ever die. The hard truth is that at some point this life will end. We will all "not be healed."

But that's not the end of the story. There is hope.

Our great hope is not that we won't experience death, but that death is not the end of life — it's the beginning.

### 3. **You won't always be "blessed."**

When someone says they're "blessed," they usually mean something like they have more work than ever, their kids are great, or they have a good money flow. The implicit suggestion is that they are "blessed" because those things have happened. Conversely, if those things were not true, they would not be "blessed."

Though there was a time — albeit long ago — that "blessing" and "wealth" and "good-living" were tied together, I seem to recall this lesson from a young teacher about 2,000 years ago:

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account" (Matthew 5:11).

The hard truth is that "blessing" is not about what we have accomplished, but what God is accomplishing in and through Jesus.

### 4. **It's not about you.**

It's so easy for church to become a country club. Not in the stuffy, elitist sense, but in the "church is for us" sense. It's about what we want — our preferences, our comforts. It is our little world that we control . . .

The church should be a refugee camp for the lost and hurting. It should be a place hurting people are brought in to be made well and then sent out to bring others who are hurting back in. We weren't brought in to simply socialize.

### 5. **Silence is ok.**

Sometimes God is going to be silent. It doesn't mean that you aren't "Christian enough" or that you are somehow "broken." It means God is being silent.

And the hard truth is that silence is ok

### 6. **Christianity is not about a feeling — it's about choices.**

When we pursue and desire the "feeling" of being on fire for God, we begin to worship that — and not God.

The hard truth is that being a Christian isn't about getting warm fuzzies when the band is rocking or the pastor preaches an exciting sermon. It's about daily choosing to pick up our cross, even when we don't feel like it.

### 7. **No three-step formula will guarantee any outcome.**

We must be clear: there's no guarantee to happiness or success, a great prayer life, or anything else. The Bible doesn't offer a good, efficient, successful or rich life, but new life.

And the hard truth is that this new life might look different from what we expect. We might do everything scripture says and have a business fail, be poor (which is no sin), struggle with depression, and/or not become the next big thing.

What scripture does say is God will not leave us as orphans (John 14:18). Whatever we have to go through in life, we won't have to go through it alone.

*From "Pastors: 7 Hard Truths You Need to Tell Your Church" by Stephen Mackey*