



Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

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NewsFlash!

Sunday 5th February 2017

This morning 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall
Led by Ian's House Group

*We offer a warm welcome to all visitors to our worship today
If you would like to know more about us, please ask one of the leaders*

This evening 7.00pm: Town-wide service at Crawley Baptist Church

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

Wednesday 9.30am: Coffee Shop in the Social Hall

Thursday 6.30pm: Prayer time at Brenda's home (*time to be confirmed*)

Friday 2.30pm: Dave Time in the Church Quiet Room
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
Speaker: David Evans
4.30pm: The Lighthouse Project 20th Birthday Celebration at St. Andrew's Church, Furnace Green, followed by party nibbles

Thought for the Week – from Caroline

Philippians 4:8 *Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. (NIV)*

After all the political turmoil and opinions being brandished about I felt this was a good thing to do so I have taken my mind away from a political context today and focused on creation and its beauty and am enjoying my reading at the moment, which is "The Horse and His Boy" by C. S. Lewis. I always pray about the TFTW, I only want to say what I believe God wants me to say and not to come across as preachy, pious or dogmatic (though being dogmatic isn't one of my faults I don't think). Anyway several scriptures came into my head: 1. **Proverbs 23:7** *For as he thinks in his heart so he is ...* 2. **Jeremiah 17:9** *The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure ...*

Our opinions, what we say, are based mainly on what we think, what we have learned, our experiences, our perceptions, and what scripture says is stored in our hearts. I like this: Mark Twain wrote, "What a wee little part of a person's life are his acts and his words! His real life is led in his head, and is known to none but himself. All day long, the mill of his brain is grinding, and his thoughts, not those other things, are his history." (*Reader's Digest*) (Well not strictly true because God knows our every thought.)

But does Jeremiah mean also the believers' hearts when he says this, for surely we are a new creation. This is something I read and I have forgotten who wrote it but it helps with answering that question: Because of the New Covenant we have a new disposition. We have a new inclination. We have a new ability to fight sin and even desire to do so. But even with the new inclination there is still "remnant" sin. There is still remnant "deceitfulness" and desperate wickedness in my soul. I am not totally pure (boy, do I know it!).

The writer goes on to explain that our heart condition is transformed in a progressive way as we become more and more submitted and obedient to God. Why am I saying all this? Because if our opinions stem from our thoughts then as Christians our thoughts should really be put before God's counsel (*First seek the counsel of the Lord 1 Kings 22:5*). Now that does sound pious, doesn't it? How often do I do that before I hit the comment button on my iPad? Probably never. I can now however accept other people's opinions without feeling rejected when they disagree, something many people feel because of their insecurities as I did years ago. I have therefore grown over the years but still would prefer loving disagreement. We must all guard against pride and a "know it all" attitude, only God knows the story from beginning to end.

Diary Dates

Friday 7th–Sunday 9th April: Church Weekend at Ashburnham Place with Jon and Emily Darby – Booking forms are now available on the tables, please hand to Caroline (while Irma is away) with any payments.

Saturday 29th July–Saturday 4th August: Revive! 2017, "All for One" with Roger and Faith Forster and special guest speakers Stuart Bell, Steve Clifford and Jake Isaac. Bookings are now open at ichthus.org.uk/revive, 10% discount for payment in full by 17th March.