



Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

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NewsFlash!

Sunday 26th February 2017

This morning 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall
Led by Sam Cole and Desmond Thomas

*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*

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

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
Worship: Vivienne Evans; Speaker: Ian Johnson
7.00pm: Town-wide service at Crawley Baptist Church

Women's World Day of Prayer

This Friday, 3rd March, 10.00am at St. John's Church, Crawley Town Centre and 7.00pm at Horley Gatwick Seventh Day Adventist Church in Lowfield Heath.

Thought for the Week – from Caroline

Yet the Lord still waits for you to come to him, so he can show you his love; he will conquer you to bless you, just as he said. For the Lord is faithful to his promises. Blessed are all those who wait for him to help them. Isaiah 30:18, Living Bible

This verse has become one of my favourites, and it has often been a source of encouragement to me when I've had hard times. Let's think of the implication of the promise. God waits for us. As I think of that promise, it staggers my mind. The Creator of the universe and the Giver of all life has chosen to wait for us – wait for us to come to our senses, wait for us to respond to His love, wait for us to turn to Him for help.

If you are born again, then Jesus is dwelling in you through the power of the Holy Spirit. But is God comfortable in you, and does He feel at home there within you? It took me a long time to understand that God lives in me along with all the other stuff that's going on in my inner life. Because many Christians are not willing to submit to the inner promptings of the Holy Spirit, they are not full of peace."

Perhaps that's how it is with many of God's people. We are so absorbed by our failures and all the wrong things we see about ourselves, it's hard to believe that God wants to bless us. If we

read, "God wants to punish you," we wouldn't have trouble saying, "Yes, that's what I deserve."

But how would we answer if someone said, "God wants to bless you?" We probably would say, "I don't deserve that."

How many of us believe we are entitled to God's blessings? We want the good things. We want God to love us, encourage us, bless us, and give us victory, but to say we deserve the blessings may be more than we are willing to accept.

Why do we struggle over the concept of deserving? Our tendency is to think that we have to do something to earn the blessings ... that we have to be good enough or faithful enough. We miss the point of God's powerful, gracious love. Our blessings from God are not a result of our goodness. They are the result of God's goodness.

We are entitled to God's blessings for only one reason: because we are His children. It's just that simple. Those of us who are parents grasp that concept with regard to our children. We brought them into the world, and they deserve our love. We freely give them our love before they do anything good or bad. They deserve our protection and all the good things we choose to give them. They don't deserve those things because they've done something to earn them, but simply because they are our children.

Joyce Meyer, excerpt from *The Waiting God*

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 Irma 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.