



Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

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NewsFlash!



Sunday 21st May 2017

This morning 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall
Led by students from IBTI

*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*

Monday 7.45pm: Church Meeting in the Small Hall
The agenda will cover the Fellowship's activities and finances and there will be an opportunity to ask questions – everyone who worships with us regularly is encouraged to come

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, including communion

Thought for the Week – from Caroline

The Angel and the Little Book (Revelation 10:8-11)

John is given a vision of a massive angel with one foot on the land and one on the sea, his voice was like the roaring of a lion and he shouted out with great authority, compelling and inspiring and he is holding a little book. A voice from heaven (Jesus) tells John to take the book from the angel and to eat it. The angel told him it would be sweet to taste but bitter in his stomach.

In Jer 15:13-17 and Ezek 2:8-10 it mentions eating a book as well and it is symbolic of receiving knowledge. We are encouraged to feed on the word of God not just to gain knowledge but to inwardly digest the insights and the mysteries of God and to apply it to our lives for transformation; we must live the Word not just read it. In verse 10 John eats the little book saying it is sweet to taste but then bitter in his stomach. In verse 11 he is told to prophesy concerning many peoples and nations. I thought this sounded fascinating so I have looked into it. This book is a sweet and sour scroll, God's word can be bittersweet and hard to digest sometimes. There are promises in the Bible but also warnings. People get excited about prophecy and studying Revelation thrills people, but we also have concerns about our unsaved loved ones and know that there will be stern and terrible judgement. We like the bits of God's word that speak of love, mercy, His plan of eternal salvation, His promise of the future and hope, but we are not so keen on God's word as a tool of correction. This is what the Laodicean church needed as they were neither hot nor cold and were virtually indistinguishable from those who were lost. So John was to speak in a similar manner. Prophets are not always popular as they will tell the people what's needed and not always what they like. We would much rather say things that are sweet and get us liked, but Jesus didn't always do that and He was considered by the Pharisees as a trouble maker and subversive. Think of that, the creator of the world, the loving Messiah who never sinned but only loved was classed as a revolutionary rebel, an agitator that needed to be executed. It has been said (I can't remember who by), "Until we are faithful to speak out about the bitter realities of God's judgement and sin we will not find the Word of God as sweet to us as it could be." Today the world responds pretty well to hurricane, tsunami and earthquake warnings but, like in the days of Noah, they are unaware of the warnings in Revelation. They go about their daily lives oblivious to the spiritual storm clouds gathering. How do you warn people without preaching hell fire and damnation? I don't know but God does, so we must keep asking Him and I hope in some small way that this Thought for the Week has stirred some thought on the matter.

Diary Dates

Saturday 29th July–Saturday 4th August: Revive! 2017, "All for One" with Roger and Faith Forster and special guest speakers Stuart Bell, Steve Clifford, Jake Isaac and Ian Christensen. Bookings can be made at ichthus.org.uk/revive