



Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

(01444 400521 – Email: fellowship@broadfield.org.uk – Web: www.broadfield.org.uk



NewsFlash!

Sunday 4th June 2017

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

*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
5.30pm: JMC meets in the Church Quiet Room

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: Kevin Gordon; Speaker: David Evans

Thought for the Week — from Caroline

COMPROMISE is subtle and dangerous for Christians

Psalm 119:1-4 (NLT)

Joyful are people of integrity, who follow the instructions of the LORD. Joyful are those who obey his laws and search for him with all their hearts.

They do not compromise with evil, and they walk only in his paths. You have charged us to keep your commandments carefully.

How very expert we can be at compromise and justifying it all in the name of love. It isn't just those new to the faith or the naive who are sucked into the subtlety of compromise but also very mature and Godly people whose heart is to do the right thing or have large ministries. It doesn't take away their gifting but it affects their walk and it affects the church and will always somewhere along the line have disastrous consequences. In 2 Chron 17-20 King Jehoshaphat, King of Judah compromised by allowing his son Jehoram to marry Ahab and Jezebel's daughter Athaliah. Jehoshaphat loved the Lord and was greatly blessed by Him, he did not consult with foreign Gods and reformed the country by removing the Asherah poles and high places. However he formed an alliance with King Ahab, the king of the northern kingdom of Israel, who was a very wicked man who opposed God.

We have to put God first however difficult that is and it's not easy when it is close to home with our own families or friends but God will honour us. In an article entitled Confusing Transparency and Integrity Matt Dabs puts it better than me and says this:

Transparency is highly valued. People hate hypocrisy. They despise people being phony. They would rather know what someone or

something is really all about than something being presented falsely. But there is a difference between transparency and integrity. The two should never be confused. Transparency is seeing something for what it really is. If it is junk, it appears to be junk. If it is valuable that shows up as well. Integrity is impossible without transparency but not the other way around. It is entirely possible to be transparent about your lack of integrity. That is called audacity.

Because transparency is so highly valued some Christians have fallen into the trap of thinking evil can be all right as long as they are being honest with themselves and others about it. This is confessional complacency at its best and it results in transparency being a rationalization for sin rather than a means to integrity. The race away from hypocrisy has led many to integrity-less transparency rather than using our shortcomings to help our faith and integrity grow.

It is important that we are people of integrity. One of the first steps toward getting there is transparency, that we are real with ourselves and others about our shortcomings. For integrity to grow from there it is going to take more than a complacent acknowledgement of problems. We have to let that knowledge and experience refine our lives into a more holy existence. That can only be done in partnership with God and a community of faith.

We can rationalize sin because deep down we may have fear and insecurity about our relationships and don't want to "rock the boat" but by doing what appears to be the "loving thing" in reality it can be compromise and we might actually be doing a very unloving thing by keeping people where they are. Not only will they not grow but we can also be witnessing wrong actions to other people who may be impressionable and look up to us.

If you still have money to pay for the Church Weekend, please give it to Irma, thank you.

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