



Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

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NewsFlash!

Sunday 18th November 2018

This morning 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall, including communion
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: Prayer meeting for the town at Elim Church, Ifield Drive

Monday 6.45–7.45pm: Prayer time in the Church

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

Wednesday 9.15am: Coffee Shop in the Social Hall

Thursday 9.00am–3.00pm: **Alpha** Awayday at Holmsted Manor

Friday 2.30–3.30pm: "Dave Time" In the Church Quiet Room

5.00pm: Friday Meal in the Social Hall

5.45–7.00pm: **Alpha** in the Church Quiet Room

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

Led by students from IBTI

5.00pm: Joint Prayer and Worship in the Church

Thought for the Week – from Caroline

Jeremiah 31:3 "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness."

I have just started reading for the first time *Song of Songs* written by King Solomon, it expresses deep love, intimacy and passion based on the covenant love between man and wife but also for Jesus and His church (all Christians of any age, married or single can know this intimacy with God). To help me understand this book I have bought a book by Charlie Cleverly titled *Exploring The Divine Romance*.

In the heart of us all is that longing for intimacy, a yearning for connection in the heart of mankind. I no longer want to just know about God, I want to truly KNOW Him, surrender to Him, walk closely with Him like Adam did in the Garden of Eden before he disobeyed God and severed that connection. It is a fact that some Christians seem to have a much closer relationship with God than others, is it that they are favourites? Well NO because God doesn't have favourites. Do we have to work harder at it, pray for hours and hours, volunteer for endless social schemes, give all our money away, fast for days on end or even as in days of old, beat ourselves? Well it can't be that because Psalm 46:10 says, "Cease striving and know that I am God" and there are many scriptures about leaning on God, giving all your cares to Him but as yet I haven't found a scripture that says, "Carry on as you always have done, no need to do anything." When we give our lives to Jesus we are saved but then Philippians 2:12 says, "... continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ..." This means we learn to listen, learn to obey God's word in order to mature, grow and allow God to dwell in our hearts. Intimacy and closeness doesn't grow in a marriage by the husband or wife saying, "Well we are married now I shall just carry on as normal, living life my way as I have always done." That would be a shallow marriage with no real relationship.

God knows our hearts and Luke 16:10 says If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won't be honest with greater responsibilities. So although God loves us with an everlasting love and we are the apple of His eye we must seek Him, yearn for Him as a deer pants for water (Psalm 42:1) and be faithful in all He asks us to do, then we will have more. That is rather daunting knowing my own love for comfort and the TV but God knows me and He will help me (and you) in my desire to be closer to Him.

Charlie Cleverly says this, "I believe the Song is the greatest song because it treats the subject of the greatest importance in life. This is the one thing needful, the priority that matters in this transitory life: our relationship, we might even say love affair, with the God of love. It explores an end to alienation and offers an answer to the existential ache and yearning for connection in the heart of man."

Diary Dates

Saturday 15th December, Carol singing in the Town Centre, details to follow

Friday 8th – Sunday 10th March 2019: Church Weekend at Ashburnham Place with Faith Forster & Ben Trigg

Saturday 3rd – 10th August 2019: Revive 2019 at Ashburnham Place – bookings now open at revivelive.co.uk

Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers. (3 John 2)