



Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

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NewsFlash!

Sunday 17th/24th March 2019

This morning 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall, including communion
Bring and Share

*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 18 & 25 6.45–7.45pm: Prayer time in the Church

Tuesday 19 & 26 7.00pm: House Group at Ben & Pauline's home

Wednesday 20 & 27 9.15am: Coffee Shop in the Social Hall
1.30pm: The Wednesday Group in the Church Quiet Room

Friday 22 & 29 2.30–3.30pm: "Dave Time" in the Church Quiet Room
5.00pm: Friday Meal in the Social Hall

Sunday 24th 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

Sunday 31st **CLOCKS GO FORWARD – DON'T BE LATE!**

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

Nehemiah 1:4 "When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven."

Nehemiah didn't want to act on his in feelings or out of the compassion that was driving him, he wanted to do exactly what God wanted him to do (regarding the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem).

God wants the same from us, He wants us to listen to His instruction and not act out of our own desires or emotions. Acting or praying out of our own emotions are sometimes called soulish prayers, they stem from good thoughts and intentions but are not in tune with the Holy Spirit. I have never fasted and prayed but I realise it's something many people and churches do and it has a definite place. I think I/we should consider this. In the case of Nehemiah his fasting was so that he would hear God's will for the rebuilding of the walls but we can also fast for many other issues in our own lives, we can fast and pray for God to reveal the condition of our hearts and also circumstances or relationships. God wants to rebuild broken lives too.

What Does Fasting Do For Our Spiritual Life?

In their Crosswalk.com blog on the subject, Suzanne Niles and Wendy Simpson Little give [5 Ways Fasting Can Change Your Life](#):

1. Fasting and prayer can help us hear from God.
2. Fasting and prayer can reveal our hidden sin.
3. Fasting and prayer can strengthen intimacy with God.
4. Fasting and prayer can teach us to pray with right motives.
5. Fasting and prayer can build our faith.

Not only does fasting and prayer help us focus on God, but through that time, it brings us closer to Him and changes our hearts. Niles and Little write, "When we fast and pray, we are taking time away from a meal or an activity to devote our entire being to focus on God. We find we are more sensitive to the voice of God, more attuned to hearing what He has to reveal to us. Gently, God whispers in our mind what we were really thinking at the time of our sin, what our true intent was and we are shocked ... momentarily. Then like a light turned on in a pitch black room, we see it. We did mean harm. We were manipulative. Even though our recognition makes us want to hide our face, our loving Saviour lifts our chin to look into his forgiving eyes. As we repent, we no longer want to hide, but to praise and worship the very one who confronted our wrong."

Diary Dates

Saturday 3rd – 10th August: Revive 2019, "In the Name of Jesus" at Ashburnham Place with Greg Boyd and Gavin Calver – book at revivelive.co.uk

Keep turning your back on every sin, and make "peace" your life motto. Practise being at peace with everyone.

(Psalm 34:14, The Passion Translation)