



# Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

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## NewsFlash!

### Sunday 11th June 2023

<b>This morning</b>	10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall <i>Worship: Viv Evans</i> <i>Bouncing Forwards from Kintsugi Hope, week 1: Kindness to Others</i>
<hr/> <i>We offer a warm welcome to all visitors to our worship today</i> <i>If you would like to know more about us, please ask one of the leaders</i> <hr/>	
<b>Monday</b>	9.30am: Little Lambs Toddler Group in the Social Hall 7.00pm: Prayer Meeting on Zoom
<b>Tuesday</b>	7.30pm: Home Group at Steph & Shell's
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.15am: Coffee Shop in the Social Hall
<b>Saturday</b>	12.00–4.00pm: Broadfield Arts Festival at the Community Centre, free for all the family
<b>Next Sunday</b>	9.00am: Open up and set up hall for worship 9.30am: Prayer Meeting 10.00am: Tea & Coffee 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall <i>Worship: Kevin Gordon</i> <i>Bouncing Forwards from Kintsugi Hope, week 2: Kindness to Ourselves</i> 12.00–4.00pm: Shared Summer Sunday, with Christ the Lord congregation at the Broadfield Arts Festival, food can be purchased

### Thought for the Week – from Caroline

John 5:5-7 "Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, 'Do you want to be made well?' The sick man answered Him, 'Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me.'"

Jesus had returned to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish Holy days. Inside the city near the sheep gate was the Pool Of Bethesda where many sick people lay; lame, blind, and paralysed. They believed that at certain times an angel would stir the water and whoever got there first would be healed. Jesus saw the man, as the scripture says, and asked him if he wanted to be made well. Jesus often asks questions He knows the answer to. The man's immediate answer is not, "Oh yes, I'm desperate to be well and to walk," but an excuse. Sometimes you get comfortable in a bad situation and that diminishes the desire to get out. I may get myself unpopular saying this, but this country is pretty generous with benefits, and a lot would have to be given up if total healing occurred. In 2013, I did a sermon/talk entitled "One Touch From The King," I suspect people thought it would be a snugly warm easy-to-hear talk on God's love. Yes, it was God's love but from a different angle and I don't think it went down too well. I spoke about the time Nathan confronted David about his adultery with Bathsheba, you can read about it in 2 Samuel 12. When Nathan tells King David exactly what God says about his behaviour, he is being a true friend and bringing to him a *Touch From The King*, the King being Jesus. This is an excerpt from my talk: "How much do you really want a Touch from the King? Well that's a silly question, you might say, an obvious question, of course we want a touch from the King! But supposing He wants to touch things in us and in our lives that we may not want touched. Supposing He wants to touch the very painful places, the deep hurts and buried issues, the undealt-with sin, the things you don't want to talk about; the unforgiveness, the anger, the denial, our stubbornness, our fears and insecurities, our behaviour patterns, our pride, our attitudes that we have always walked in but are not actually suited for Kingdom living, the list is very long. And what about the next line in the song that says that one touch from the King changes everything. Do we really want everything changed? That involves risk and vulnerability and is scary. This is sounding all very negative, you may be thinking, but believe me it isn't. You see the King, if we have given our lives to him, is our father, a father who loves us more than we can imagine, who wants to take the broken us and fix us. I never had anything to do with my father and never had a father figure in my life, but if I was asked, 'What is your picture of a father?' I would say, "He would sometimes cuddle me, reassure me, praise me, encourage me, laugh and have fun with me, teach me, guide me, protect me, provide for me, listen to me, correct me, and discipline me when I needed it. Then if I didn't do as I was told I would suffer the consequences, but I would still know he loved me."

The man didn't need to go into the water, all he needed is what we need, and that is Jesus.

### Diary Dates

**Saturday 29th–Saturday 5th August 2023:** Revive 2023 "Pursuing The Unshakeable" at Ashburnham Place with Pete Greig and Noel Robinson; bookings open at [revivelive.co.uk](http://revivelive.co.uk)

**Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing. (Isaiah 43:18-19a)**