



Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

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NewsFlash!

Sunday 10th March 2024

This morning 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall
Worship: Viv Evans; "Being Human" session 5: Participation

*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 9.30am: Little Lambs Play & Sing Toddler Group in the Social Hall
7.00pm: Prayer Meeting on Zoom

Tuesday 7.30pm: Home Group at Steph & Shell's

Wednesday 9.15am: Coffee Shop in the Social Hall

Next Sunday 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

Worship: Kevin Gordon; "Being Human" session 6: Being Human

Thought for the Week – from Caroline

James 4:1-2 "Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask."

I was pondering on the question of how we pray for Ukraine and the Gaza/Israel war. I feel I can't pray for world peace as it's never going to happen until Jesus returns, and anyway He said there will be wars. Furthermore, I know God isn't just going to wave a magic wand over the situation and all will be well. It's not only a physical battle but a massive spiritual battle too, especially between Gaza and Israel, reaching right back to Abraham and Ishmael. The simplistic black and white prayer is that they will turn to God and accept Jesus, but I don't have enough faith for that as it would have to be all those in control, not just the common people. There are already Palestinian Christians and Messianic Jews, and they will definitely be praying. God can use evil to bring about His purposes, and He knows what He's doing. I/we pray God will shorten the time of suffering, bring about miracles and divine appointments, and open the eyes of the spiritually blind. We know God's purposes will prevail in the end.

Max Lucado writes this:

War is a fruit of sin.

The Bible does not isolate war, as if it were something unique and quite apart from other human struggles. International combat

resides in the same neighbourhood with rape, murder, wife-beating, husband-berating, loneliness, arrogance: these are the fruits of sin.

War is one of them. On a larger scale, no doubt. In a more terrible form, certainly. But war is born in the same hospital as a quarrel with your neighbour. The hospital of sin.

Before we blame international conflict on finances or boundaries or religion, we must lay the blame where God does: our sinful nature.

A boy once asked, "Daddy, how do wars begin?"

"Well, take the first world war. It began when Germany invaded Belgium." Immediately, his wife interrupted him, "Tell the boy the truth. It began because somebody was murdered." The husband yanked his head toward her, "Are you answering this question or am I?" She walked out of the room in a huff, the dad sat and scowled. The boy interrupted the silence, "Daddy, you don't have to tell me how wars begin. I think I know how."

Whether it's two toddlers fighting in a playroom or two super-powers directing nuclear missiles at each other; the cause of conflict is the same. Selfishness. One side cannot get what they want, so they demand their way. They fight. War is the fruit of sin.

To ask God to prohibit war, then, is to ask him to prohibit the consequence of human behaviour. Something he has never been wont to do. As long as there is sin there will be war.

Diary Dates

Saturday 23rd/Sunday 24th March: Church Weekend at the DeVere Horsley Estate, East Horsley with Abi Willets

Wednesday 3rd April, 7.30pm: Licensing of Rev. David King, the new vicar of Christ the Lord, in the Church

Saturday 4th May, 2.00–4.00pm: Thanksgiving Service for the life of Roger Forster at the Emmanuel Centre, Marsham Street, London SW1P 3DW, book your place at ichthus.churchsuite.com/events/3wzhwoxm

Saturday 3rd–10th August: Revive 2024 "Fearless and Free" at Ashburnham Place – bookings now open at revivelive.co.uk – special Jubilee camping offer, see www.revivelive.co.uk/jubilee-2024/, book by 31st May

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. (Matthew 6:33)