



Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

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NewsFlash!

Sunday 14th April 2024

This morning 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall

Worship: Kevin Gordon; Speaker: Ian Johnson

*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

Including UKHarvest Community Food Hub from 10.00 – Bring a shopping bag and fill it from a selection of mixed groceries and rescued produce for a suggested donation of £3.50

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, including communion

Worship: Viv Evans; Speaker: Dave Evans

Thought for the Week – from Caroline

Matthew 5:42 "Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you."

Proverbs 28:27 "Those who give to the poor will lack nothing, but those who close their eyes to them receive many curses."

Proverbs 13:18 "Whoever disregards discipline comes to poverty and shame, but whoever heeds correction is honoured."

Proverbs 24:33-34 "A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest — and poverty will come on you like a thief and scarcity like an armed man."

These scriptures seem to contradict each other, but with all scripture that seemingly opposes or contradicts, we listen to God for the wisdom that encircles it. Just a thought about financial poverty or even spiritual poverty is a subject worthy of a sermon and certainly not "black and white." It's almost impossible to discuss it in a thought. There are many reasons people are poor, sometimes it's self-inflicted by self-indulgence, lack of wisdom, foolishness or even refusal to work when we are able; sometimes it's brought about by circumstances beyond our control, or learning difficulties, any number of reasons. The poor in Jesus's day were very different from poverty in the UK in 2024. In those days, there were no benefits for those unable to work or who were sick and no food banks, etc. They had to beg or hope that family would help them. I obviously can't discuss all the aspects of poverty, so let's just look at self-inflicted poverty in the story of "The Prodigal Son" in Luke 15:11-31.

The Father was a wealthy landowner, so his sons would be entitled to a large inheritance when he died. The younger son wants his share now, not later. The father agrees, and off goes the son with a load of cash and sets off into his chosen lifestyle. He splashes the cash on women, parties (and if it was nowadays, drugs), and basically self-indulgence on himself and the friends he thinks he has. Well, inevitably the cash dries up as well as a famine in the land, and he has to look for work. He gets a job on a pig farm and Luke 15:16 says: "The young man became so hungry that even the pods he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything." I've underlined that, as it's important. He was in dire need, but no one gave him anything. If they had supplied his need, they would have got in the way of God's plan for his life and prevented him from falling on his knees in repentance, examining himself and crying out to God. God had a far better plan than meeting his immediate need, instead he set the young man on a journey back to his father and salvation.

Diary Dates

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)