



Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

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NewsFlash!

Sunday 29th September 2024

This morning 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall
Worship: Viv Evans
Freedom in Christ session 3, "The World's View Of Truth"

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 7.45pm: 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 and Communion

Thought For The Week – from Caroline

Jeremiah 30:17 *For I will restore health to you, and your wounds I will heal, declares the Lord, because they have called you an outcast ...*

Jeremiah is referring to Israel here, but it equally applies to our lives. So let me tell you about the "Strangler Fig Tree." Strangler figs are common in dark areas where there's competition for sunlight. A small, sticky seed is dropped by a bird or a bat and becomes lodged in a crevice of an unsuspecting host tree. Roots shoot down surrounding the tree and branches grow above. Contrary to what its name implies, it doesn't strangle its host. Instead, it thrives by growing faster and consuming the host's resources. Eventually, the strangler fig's large canopy will envelop the older tree, blocking it completely from sunlight. In time, the host dies, literally rotting from within, leaving a hollow shell.

This makes me think of people who do not commit their lives to Jesus; Satan will plant seeds into their minds and slowly and surely, unknowingly they become hardened in their hearts and futile in their thinking, and eventually they can become far removed from the person they could have become if they surrendered to God's plan for them. The worst result is, they not only die physically, but they remain spiritually dead for eternity. That's why it's so important to tell people about Jesus and His mission to save. But Christians can also become badly damaged by the "seeds of Satan," which like the strangler fig stunt their growth and cause them to be ineffective. They won't be totally consumed like the host tree because they have the Holy Spirit living in them, but the canopy of lies over their minds will block the light of God's word. God's word brings life, restoration, healing, comfort, conviction, wisdom, teaching and much more; Satan's words, seeds or lies bring despair, condemnation, hopelessness, lack of self-worth and mental illness in many cases. If we give in to these lies, believe them or become unforgiving, bitter, angry in many situations, it's like we are feeding the strangler fig. Our enemies are the world, the flesh and the devil, and they all influence you greatly. Don't become a host to lies and worldly philosophies. Feed on God's word and allow Him to build you up restore you, strengthen you, heal your wounds and guide you in all things. I'm calling the devil a "strangler fig," don't give him a foothold in your life.

The information about the Strangler Fig Tree was given to me by Annie Brown. Some of you know her well.

Advance Notice

Sunday 6th October, 7.00pm: Lighthouse Project 95% Prayer in the Social Hall – pray for the 95% of children and young people who have no connection with a local church

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