



Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

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NewsFlash!

Sunday 31st August 2025

This morning 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall

Worship: Kevin Gordon

Speaker: Dave Evans, John chapter 16

*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*

Wednesday 9.15am: Coffee Shop in the Social Hall

9.00am–**Sunday** 8.00am: The Lighthouse Project 95 hours prayer for the 95% at Transformation Community Church, formerly New Life, The Glade, Furnace Green

Sign up for a session at <https://signup.24-7prayer.com/signup/341aaa>

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: Viv Evans

Speaker: Ian Johnson, John chapter 17

7.00pm: The Lighthouse Project Commissioning Service at The Barn Church, Bewbush

Thought for the Week – from Caroline

Paul's Letter to the Corinthian Church

For I wrote you out of great distress and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to grieve you but to let you know the depth of my love for you. (2 Corinthians 2:4)

Nicky Gumbel's commentary on 2 Corinthians 1:23-2:11:

Justice and forgiveness

Many of us tend to avoid confrontation. I find it difficult. It is not just the fear of rejection or being unpopular, it is also the fear that I might make the situation worse by fuelling the fires of anger and resentment.

Some people seem positively to enjoy confrontation. If we look forward to confrontation, if we find it easy to put others right, to correct and to criticise, it is possible that we are not always acting out of love.

Paul loved the Corinthians deeply. Yet he did not shy away from confrontation. His love led him to confront, though it caused him 'great distress', 'anguish of heart' and 'many tears' (2:4). 'I didn't write it to cause pain; I wrote it so you would know how much I care – oh, more than care – love you!' (v.4, MSG).

Confronting people with the truth may be very painful. Truth, like surgery, may hurt, but it also cures. Operations like this must be carried out with love. We do not know exactly who or what Paul is referring to here. However, it may be the man that Paul had denounced in 1 Corinthians 5:1–5 (who had been living with his father's wife).

Paul had insisted that he be thrown out of the church. However, now he is saying that this man has received punishment enough. He urges them to forgive and comfort him, and to reaffirm their love for him (2 Corinthians 2:7–8). Justice had been done. Now was the time for mercy, grace and forgiveness.

Paul was very quick to forgive: 'Anyone you forgive I also forgive. And what I have forgiven – if there was anything to forgive – I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake' (v.10). When Paul forgave, he forgot – hardly even remembering whether there was anything to forgive.

Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross, was once reminded by a friend of a cruel thing that had happened to her many years earlier. Clara seemed unable to remember the incident.

'Don't you remember the wrong that was done to you?' the friend asked insistently.

'No,' Clara answered calmly. 'I distinctly remember forgetting that.'

Forgiveness is absolutely vital in the Christian church. Lack of forgiveness is one of the ways that the devil can get in – it opens a door for his schemes. Forgiveness shuts him out: 'In order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes' (v.11).

Prayer

Lord, help us to spot the schemes of the devil. Help us to be quick to forgive and love one another and to shut Satan out of the church.

For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.

(2 Corinthians 2:15)