

# Broadfield Christian Fellowship

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

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## NewsFlash!

### Sunday 8th November 2009

**This morning** 10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall  
*Led by students from the International Bible Training Institute (IBTI)*

*We offer a warm welcome to all visitors to our worship today*

**Monday** 10.15am: Pastoral Group meets at Linda's home  
10.30am–1.00pm: *Monday Munch* in the Church Foyer  
2.00pm: House Group at Connie's home

**Tuesday** 7.30pm: House Group at Stacey & Debby's home  
*See "Thought for the Week" below*

**Wednesday** 9.30–11.30am: *The Triangle* Coffee Shop in the Social Hall  
12.00–1.00pm: Prayer and fasting in the Church Quiet Room

**Thursday** 7.30pm: Music Group in the Church

**Friday** 5.00–6.00pm: Friday Meal in the Social Hall

**Next Sunday** 9.00am: Open up and set up hall for worship  
9.30am: Prayer meeting in the Social Hall  
10.00am: Tea and coffee  
10.30am: Morning Worship in the Social Hall, including communion  
*Worship: Vivienne Evans; Preacher: David Evans*

### Thought for the Week – from Caroline

#### Matthew 5:13-16 — Believers are Salt and Light

In the ancient world salt was highly valued, the Greeks called salt divine. In the time of Jesus, salt was connected in people's minds with three special qualities :

1. Purity
2. Preservatives
3. Palatability (making food pleasant to taste)

Also (and not a lot of people know this, as Michael Caine would say!), Roman soldiers were partly paid in salt. It is said to be from this that we get the word soldier – 'sal dare', meaning to give salt. From the same source we get the word salary, which in turn is derived from the Latin word, 'salarium'. The salt amount would depend on rank, and what they did with it was to preserve their food, meats in particular.

Verse 13 says "... but if salt loses its flavour, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men." The early church made very strange use of this text. In the Synagogue, among the Jews, there was a

custom that, if a Jew became an apostate (someone who abandons their faith or belief) and then returned to the faith, before he was received back into the Synagogue, he must in penitence lie across the door of the Synagogue and invite people to trample upon him as they entered. In certain places the Christian Church took over that custom, and a Christian who had been ejected by discipline from the Church, was compelled, before he was received back, to lie at the door of the Church and to invite people as they enter, "Trample upon me who am the salt which has lost its savour."

If this old custom were practised in the church of Jesus Christ today, would it motivate you to ask, "How salty am I?"

Is this where "being a doormat" comes from?

This thought is from William Barclay and an unknown writer.

Believers as light? Well, light has various functions but its main function is to illuminate, to make things visible, to make clear, to warn and to guide.

### Advance Notices

**Sunday 22nd November**, 6.30pm: Annual Bible Society "Songs of Praise" in the Church, followed by refreshments. Join with other Christians praising God in song and raising funds for the work in Nepal.

**Sunday 29th November**, 11.00am: Joint service in the Church (no service in the Social Hall).

**Sunday 29th November**, 7.30pm (doors 7.15): EdgsonGruet Christmas concert in the Church with special guests Sue Edgson & Jon Hope. Entry is free but donations are welcome towards the school in Mozambique where Sue was house-building.

**Friday 26th–Sunday 28th March 2010**: Church Weekend at Annan Court, near Uckfield, East Sussex, led by Graham and Sandra Geddis from Ichthus Woolwich. The cost is expected to be £80 for adults and £48 for children aged 4 to 12. If you would like to start saving weekly towards this, please see Pat.