

TODAY'S FACILITATORS

PRAYER: Austin

OFFERING: Annie

WORD: Pastor

WELCOME

We warmly welcome you, if you are worshipping with us for the first time. We believe you've become a member of our church family by God's grace.

Please ensure you speak to the Pastor or one of today's facilitators before you leave.

May God bless you richly (Amen).

VERSE(S) OF THE DAY

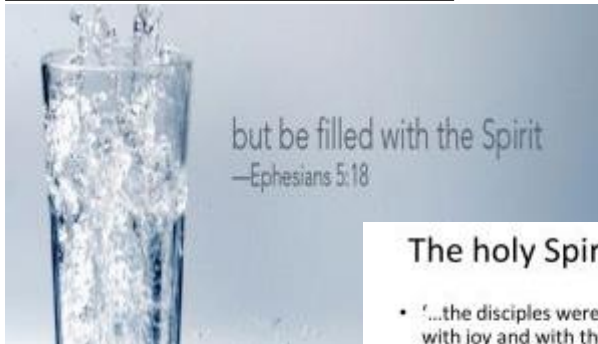
May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.
Romans 15:13 (ESV)

GROWTH & ADVANCEMENT

To build a church that is **growing, healthy and full of love**, do you have comments, ideas or suggestions? If so, please talk to the Pastor or a minister.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know you could join most of our services online when you are unable to attend? Talk to the technical team or the Pastor to find out how.



but be filled with the Spirit
—Ephesians 5:18

The holy Spirit & extraordinary joy

- '...the disciples were filled with joy and with the holy Spirit' [Acts 13:52]
- 'May the God of hope fill you with all joy...by the power of the holy Spirit' [Rom. 15:13]
- 'you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy...' [1 Peter 1:8]



Source: <https://vineyardgroningen.com/media-vq/127-be-filled-with-the-spirit>



Sunday 15 March 2020

WELCOME

Redeemed Christian Church of God

Bethel

WEEKLY SERVICES & MEETINGS

SUNDAY

Thanksgiving / Worship service
From 10am

FRIDAY

Prayer meeting / Bible study
From 7pm

RCCG Bethel Parish

Unit 13, Skylines Village

Limeharbour, London E14 9TS

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admin@rccgbethel.church

WEB: www.rccgbethel.church

Our 'must-visit' website



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WELCOME TO RCCG BETHEL PARISH

Our website is a treasure trove of information, and not only about our focus and mission. You could subscribe to our podcast or listen to past sermons too (<http://rccgbethel.church/sermons/>). This is particularly useful for when you are unable to attend services or for refreshing your recollection as an essential part of your private Bible study.

There's more! Details of events and outreach will almost certainly be available from relevant pages on our website and updated regularly, along with downloadable copies of our Sunday bulletins (<http://rccgbethel.church/category/bulletins/>).

So, why don't you set our homepage as one of your **startup page(s)** in your browser now? The following instructions for most of the common browsers may help.

Google Chrome

1. Open the browser and the **Settings** menu (or the **three vertical dots** to the right of the menu bar).
2. Scroll down and click on **Advanced Settings**.
3. Select **Open a specific page or set of pages** under **On Startup**.
4. Select **Set pages** and enter or add <http://rccgbethel.church/>.

Mozilla Firefox

1. Open Firefox. Press **Alt-T** on the keyboard and select **Options** from the drop-down menu or go to **Tools >> Options** from the main menu.
2. In the **Home** section, select **Homepage and new windows** and **Custom URLs...** from the field's drop down.
3. Enter or paste the URL: <http://rccgbethel.church/> or click **Use Current Page** if you are already on our website.

Microsoft Edge

1. Click the **three horizontal dots** to the right of the top menu bar.
2. Select **Settings** and select **A Specific Page or Pages** from the **Open Microsoft Edge With** section drop down options.
3. Enter <http://rccgbethel.church/>. (Click the Plus sign to add more pages if required).
4. Click the **three horizontal dots** to the right of the top menu bar again to close **Settings** menu.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

In-filling of the Holy Spirit

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is not just about speaking in tongues. We see examples of the baptisms in Acts 2:1-4 or when Peter was at Cornelius' house (Acts 10:44-46) or Paul in Ephesus (Acts 19:1-6). In each of these cases, they did speak in tongues. Does that mean if you don't speak in tongues, you're not baptized? Speaking in tongues could be a feature, but that's not all it is about.

What is the evidence of Holy Spirit baptism?

In the memoir of Charles G Finney, he talked about receiving a mighty baptism of the Holy Spirit without seeking it, as he was about to sit. He described it as a wave of electricity. No tongues, but this experience was proven by what he did from that point on. So, the **fruit** of the spirit is an important clue.

Can someone become a Christian and not have the Holy Spirit?

All Christians have a measure of the Holy Spirit when they gave their lives. It is by him we're sealed and no one can come to Christ without having a measure of the Holy Spirit. However, there's key difference between in-filling of the Holy Spirit, which empowers a believer, and speaking in tongues.

It is like going to a buffet restaurant which offers a fixed price that entitles you to all you can eat. Some take enough portions to allow them to sample everything. Others pick favourites. They will all pay the same price and that's part of the calculations.

Christianity is the same. The same price has been paid for all of us, but not all will avail themselves of all that is available. We need to open ourselves to the in-filling. You can either go through the effort of kindling a fire or go to someone who already have a kindled fire. But do not avoid the in-filling of the fire of the Holy Spirit. That takes you asking and his manifestation when you do, may or may not be accompanied by tongues. It could also be different from other experiences.

In Luke 11:5-13, Jesus said: *If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!*

Why did Jesus link gifts to children with the gift of the Holy Spirit? Because it is the one gift we should persist in asking for. The one gift that manifests in a 'before and after' experience.

Bottom line:

We need a continual re-filling every day. The gifts are for the church and that actually includes speaking in tongues (1 Cor 14:1). But Holy Spirit is for the believers. He's our personal enabler and the proof is when we begin to bear the fruit of the spirit.

Recommended books:

1. Memoirs of Charles G. Finney
2. The Practice of The Presence of God by Brother Lawrence

* Download a copy of Sunday bulletins from here: <http://rccgbethel.church/category/bulletins/>

RCCG Bethel Parish
Pillar of truth, defining the future today