

*** GIVE THANKS ***

Thanksgiving Service

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).

Armour of God

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand (Ephesians 6:13 KJV).

Belt of Truth
(Ephesians 6:14)

Sword of the Spirit
(Ephesians 6:17)

Feet of Peace
(Ephesians 6:15)



Source(s): <https://www.dckasarani.org/resources/weekly-articles/spiritual-warfare-part-2/>

VERSE(S) OF THE DAY

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see ... And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Hebrews 11:1; 6 (NIV)

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.



Sunday 6 September 2020

WELCOME

Redeemed Christian Church of God

Bethel

WEEKLY SERVICES & MEETINGS

SUNDAY

Thanksgiving / Worship service
From 10am

FRIDAY

Prayer meeting / Bible study
From 7pm

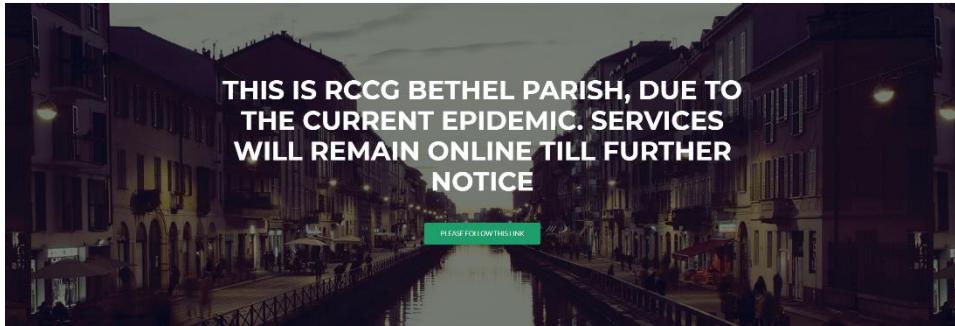
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Our 'must-visit' website



Home Our Focus About us Contact Us Sermons Privacy Policy



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

Spiritual warfare (Part 5)

Text: Ephesians 6:10-18

The scripture says the enemies we face are principalities and powers (Eph 6:10-12), and to fight them, we have weapons such as the **belt of truth** to counter the lies of the devil. For example, when Abraham was told Sodom and Gomorrah will be destroyed, he was convinced God will not destroy the righteous (Gen 18:22-33). Not all judgements are just and fair in our courts of justice, which is why we have appellate courts. But we know God's judgements are just.

We also have body armour such as the **breastplate of righteousness**. However, we know our righteousness is not based on our obedience to the law, but our faith in Christ Jesus. We need not be afraid when we fail to follow rules, as we often do. The **shield of faith** makes us difficult to target and stops the fiery darts. These are thoughts planted in our minds by the enemy to deceive and derail us, and seeds sown when we're vulnerable and don't have our shield up.

We need to carefully guard our minds against those fiery darts and take ownership of our minds. The scripture says without faith it is impossible to please God (Heb 11:6). We must ensure our faith in Christ Jesus is strong and consistent.

Jesus is the master swordsman. The shield and the **sword of the Spirit** go hand in hand in warfare. Jesus employed both when he was tempted (Luke 4:1-13). The devil was trying to tempt Jesus to misappropriate the word of God which is the sword, and the only offensive weapon in our armoury. But Jesus was able to resist by using the sword and his shield of faith.

While the word of God helps us fight the battle going on in our minds where the devil tries to defeat us (Heb 4:12; Prov 23:7), it only works when mixed with faith (Heb 4:2). A sword may be the sharpest in the world, but as long as it remains in its sheath, it cannot be effective and the word of God is exactly the same. Once mixed with faith, it comes alive and it becomes the effective weapon to destroy the devil's lies (Heb 4:2; Psa 121:1-2).

So, even when the devil spoke to Jesus with assurances, telling Jesus the world is his and promising to grant untold privileges as long as he's worshipped, it didn't work with Jesus. We all face these choices numerous times daily. When we choose the devil's options, we're telling God he's not enough for us.

Our study of the Israelite kings gave us another example. Jeroboam was promised 10 tribes (1 Kings 11:29-40). Instead of having faith in the promise, he started to think he had to do something to keep hold of the 10 tribes and eventually led Israel to worship idols (1 Kings 12:25-33).

Why do we think we've got to do anything to keep hold of the things God has given us? The scripture says without faith, it is impossible to please God. True rewards can only ever come from God. Are you convinced of that? Do you know that God always rewards?

We must trust in that truth (Heb 11:6; Gen 15:1). Someone once asked me how we can avoid becoming casualties of war. The only way is to have faith that God is able to save us (Heb 7:25). Against that, the enemy has no weapon. Remember, Christianity is supposed to be enjoyed, not endured. Be assured of God's ability to save you.

Bottom line:

When David was about to encounter Goliath, he rejected the armour given to him and fought with what he knew worked in the past. In the same way, not every word in the bible will be necessary to fight the enemy. All we need are the ones that come alive for us.

RCCG Bethel Parish

The pillar of truth, defining the future today