

*** 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).



From Law

to Grace



Source(s): <https://www.adventistworld.org/trusting-grace/> / <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/mount-grace-priory/> / <https://boruachelohim.com/2019/08/27/replacing-law-with-grace/>

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.

Grace teaches us to
trust,
and "trust" is yet
another word for
"faith."



Sunday 4 October 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
PHONE: 07889906677 || **EMAIL:** admin@rccgbethel.church
WEB: www.rccgbethel.church

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

The purpose of God's grace on the church today

Text: Ephesians 3:6-10

What is grace? Growing up in Africa, the phrase "by God's grace" is said all the time in response to practically everything. Consequently, it's probably lost some impact. A search via Google found definitions describing grace:

- as the nature of God's love
- as unmerited favour
- as A gift to the body
- through God's attributes e.g. love, character etc.

Defining grace through God's attributes struck a chord. For example, if we replace grace in the above title with God's attributes, we may be able to appreciate the essence of grace. Our standing in Christ and how much we know him may also inform our understanding because none of us is exempt from sin (Psa 51:5).

Let's think back to who we were when we were in sin and without Christ, and compare that with who we are now. We're saved by grace (Eph 2:8). It is a privilege to be saved without having to work for it and regardless of who we are.

Having an understanding of the endless treasure we have in Christ may also help us to understand what grace is. In Ephesians 6:6-10, Paul identified grace as the basis of his calling. It's not about riches or accolades or property or money. It's about our identity in Christ – the fact that we are vessels for Christ. God owns us and he's all we have.

We see this in Paul's life. While busy persecuting Christians, God saved, called and used him. It's the same with us. We've received the same gospel of Christ. Our past doesn't matter, neither does who we are. Just like Paul, we share in the same inheritance with Christ. We must understand that's a privilege and that should make us humble.

What is the good news?

For answer we can look at John 3:16. God provided a way for us to be free from the penalties of sin through Jesus (John 14:6). Also, our salvation doesn't stop once saved. It is everlasting, and when we experience grace and understand how wonderful it is to know Christ, we must seize opportunities to share him with others. Good news must be shared (Psa 66:8) in diverse ways as God leads us.

If someone asks us for £50m to live forever, wouldn't we pay if we can afford it? How much more when God gave his only son to us freely? So as we get, we give and don't hold back. As for the church, it is about us as individuals and as a body. It is about unity, fellowship, worship, evangelism and so on. It is about sharing, with each other and with God. We must express and share the beauty and manifold wisdom of God with each other and others around us (Rom 12:6).

Bottom line:

What gift has God embedded in you for ministry and how are you sharing it with others to showcase his amazing grace. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen. (2 Cor 13:14).

RCCG Bethel Parish

The pillar of truth, defining the future today