

TODAY'S FACILITATORS

PRAYER: Remy

OFFERING: Michael

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

For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

Philippians 2:13 (NLT)

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.

FOR BY GRACE YOU ARE SAVED THROUGH FAITH
EPHESIANS 2:8-9

AND THIS IS NOT FROM YOURSELVES
IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD
IT IS NOT FROM WORKS
SO THAT NO ONE CAN BOAST

Sin doesn't
When it's
SO LET US
AND WE

Source(s): <https://intentionalism.ca/2013/11/04/grace/> / <https://orthodoxchristiantheology.com/2017/05/22/salvation-by-grace-through-faith-and-union-with-christ/>



Sunday 18 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:

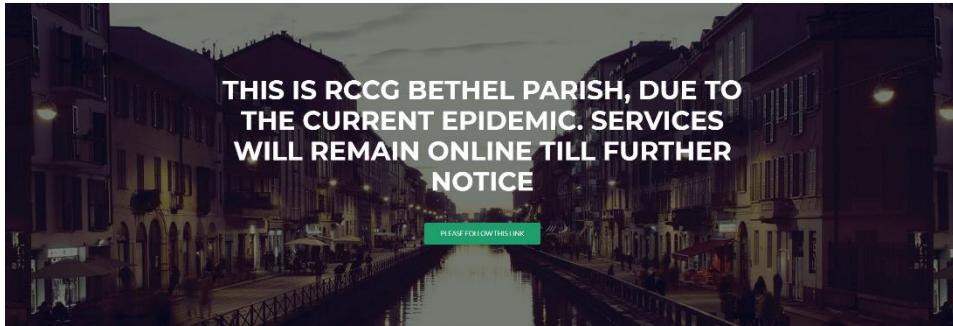
admin@rccgbethel.church

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

Will Versus Grace

Text: Matthew 19:16-22

You often hear someone described as willful or having a strong will. They're usually consistent and committed to whatever they've decided to do. They're believed to possess will power, defined as the ability to control one's own actions, emotions or urges or a strong determination that allows someone to do what they've promised.

So, people with strong will power have the ability to focus on something at the exclusion of everything else and to resist short-term temptations in order to meet long-term goals. For anyone trying to please God by obeying his laws, those with strong will power may find it easier to succeed than others (Lev 18:4-5).

Paul has strong will power and obeyed God to the letter (1 Cor 9:27; Phil 3:6). But will power is limited; and it comes and goes even in the most self-willed. Therefore, will power cannot get us to heaven. Only grace can. We see this in Paul's life. As strong-willed as he was, he couldn't please God until Jesus called him.

The rich young ruler also had enough will power to obey every law, but it wasn't enough (Matt 19:20-22). In contrast, Peter was Simon, which means a reed, easily swayed (John 1:42). Like Paul and the rich young ruler, until he became Peter the "rock" in Matthew 16:17-18, he had very little chance of pleasing God too. But Jesus redeemed him and made him a foundation for his church.

It is only grace that can help us to say "No" to sin (Phil 1:6; 11; 3:13). It is God who "**works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure**" (Phil 2:13). Grace is what gives everyone of us the ability to please God, not will power (Titus 2:11-14).

Moses was another powerful biblical character with strong will power, but he had anger management issues. He thought he could deliver the people of Israel by sheer will and decided to exact judgement when he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew man. When he realised his crime had become public knowledge, he ran away until God found and redeemed him (Exo 2:11-15; 3:1-6).

However, at the foot of the mountain, his anger problem surfaced, and he broke the tablets on which he'd written God's commandments. Not even a lengthy period of fasting or closeness with God could stop anger from consuming him (Exo 32:19).

Eventually it was his undoing at the Waters of Meribah (Num 20:1-13). After he disobeyed God, he was denied access to the promise land. Instead, God took him to the highest mountain and showed him the land (Deut 34:1-4). It was the closest he ever got (Deut 34:5-6).

Bottom line:

Like Moses, will power can only give us a glimpse of the promise land. Only grace can take us to Christ.

RCCG Bethel Parish
Pillar of truth ... defining the future today