

TODAY'S FACILITATORS

PRAYER: Bola

OFFERING: Austin

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

And he said to them, "Follow me [as My disciples, accepting me as your master and teacher and walking the same path of life that I walk], and I will make you fishers of men!"

Matthew 4:19 (AMP)

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.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Modern day evangelism ... contd

Text: Luke 5:1-10

Jesus was also discerning of those who genuinely wanted to hear from him and was focused on saving only those who needed to be saved (John 6:26-27; 15:3-7). Like Jesus, we must be confident and speak with authority (Matt 7:29; Luke 12:4-5; 11:12).

The 'Who'

In Acts 2:47b, Luke said the Lord added to the early church, "**such as should be saved**," and notice it followed the pattern laid down by Jesus. **Romans 8:28-30** told us God has predestined some to be saved. So, while we play a part, God does the work of salvation. We must never forget that or take it personally when rebuffed (Luke 10:8-11).

Bottom line:

Whatever the era, our responsibility is to be uncompromising in our service to God (Rom 12:2), creating an environment where Christ can be seen, felt and known around us (Matt 5:16), leaving the rest for God.

*Are you fishing.....
or just preoccupied with the net?*

Image source(s): <https://fineartamerica.com/featured/come-follow-me-and-i-will-make-you-fishers-of-men-cheryl-birkhead.html>



Sunday 10 January 2021

WELCOME

Redeemed Christian Church of God

Bethel

WEEKLY SERVICES & MEETINGS

SUNDAY

Thanksgiving / Worship service
From 10am

FRIDAY

Prayer meeting / Bible study
From 7pm

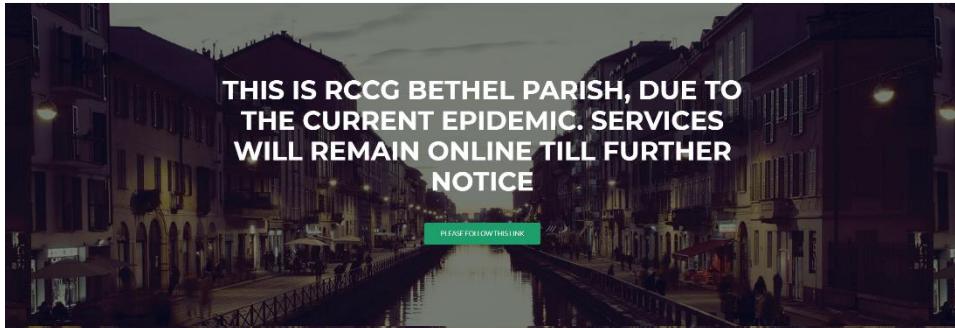
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Our 'must-visit' website



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

Modern day evangelism

Text: Luke 5:1-10

In a book titled **Evangelism: How to share the Gospel faithfully**, John F. MacArthur of Grace Community Church lamented about today's evangelism, focused on strategies and techniques e.g. events / sessions, tract distribution, mail shots, email, social media outreach etc. While not suggesting those are wrong, he worried that, at its worst, we may be trying too hard to win people over by conforming to their world or a certain culture e.g. political correctness etc. So how can we avoid doing that?

Let's explore the topic in three ways, through the bible, to find some answer(s).

The 'Why'

In simple terms, we've all been sent and given the great commission in **Matt 28:18-20**. Jesus showed us how important evangelism was to him by devoting most of the three years of his ministry to reaching out, sometimes at the exclusion of everything else or his comfort. In **John 9:4**, he told us why. He's been sent and there was a limited time to do the work. Paul also asked in **Romans 10:14-15**, that if no one told of the good news, how would people hear about Jesus and salvation?

The 'How'

We can look at the early church for the first example. In **Acts 2**, after the baptism of the Holy Spirit and Peter's inspired oratory, the people started to fellowship and gather together as a congregation. They were focused on just "**being**" together and worshiping and in **Acts 2:41-47**, we can see a manifesto of sorts for the movement. They (1) steadfastly followed, (2) fellowshipped, (3) broke bread together and (4) offered prayers and praises to God.

In **Acts 2:43**, Luke said "**fear came upon every soul**" and they performed "**signs and wonders**". **Acts 2:46** also told us they spread the word from house to house by breaking of bread and in **Acts 2:47**, we learnt "**the Lord added to the church**". In other words, they were focused on meeting needs and left God to do the work of salvation. Many around us are still just as needy today as then.

So, if we're looking for a technique, it is meeting needs. In conversations and by being curious, we discover what those are and do whatever we can for others, rather than focusing on evangelising to them. And if 2020 taught us anything, it is how much we need social contact with each other. We must also be ready to adapt as necessary.

John F. MacArthur pointed out that those known for effective evangelism in the bible did not conform. Paul in **1 Corinthians 9:19-27** for example said he made himself "**a servant to all**". John was uncompromising in telling the truth. He lived in the wilderness and the people still came looking for him (Matt 3:1-10). And Jesus gave us several models on how to meet needs first (Matt 5:7; 14:13-21; 21:12-13; John 4:1-26).

Continued >>

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