

*** 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).

" IF WE CANNOT BELIEVE
GOD WHEN
CIRCUMSTANCES SEEM TO
BE AGAINST US, WE DO
NOT BELIEVE HIM AT ALL. "

C.H SPURGEON

Source(s): <https://za.pinterest.com/pin/629941066605167398/> // <http://www.allaboutgod.net/profiles/blogs/be-a-channel-for-god-s-blessings-not-a-reservoir>

VERSE(S) OF THE DAY

The man of too many friends [chosen indiscriminately] will be broken in pieces and come to ruin, but there is a [true, loving] friend who [is reliable and] sticks closer than a brother.

Proverbs 18:24 (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.



Sunday 4 July 2021

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

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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

God has equipped us for his work

Text: Philippians 3:4-11

In Philippians 3:1-3, we're counselled not to have confidence in human effort, but God's. Our text today takes that further, telling us not to have confidence in our own effort or achievement(s). Paul said everything he'd thought valuable, even though he had a lot he could boast about, has been discarded so he could gain Christ.

School reunions are often testing for those who haven't achieved enough by their own estimation. Many never attend them because they're afraid their life's work haven't measured up, when weighted against others. We've said results can only come from God, even while we need effort and should be hardworking whenever possible (Deut 8:12-18). Also, the truth is our opinions or perception about our achievements can sometimes be distorted, and either magnified or lessened as desired.

In Daniel 4:28-30, Nebuchadnezzar's perception about his achievement was clear. He thought he built everything he could see before him. In contrast, David ascribed every victory he had to God (Psa 18:28-69; see also 2 Sam 22:1-51). David wasn't the creator of all or the hero. Paul's attitude's the same, making it clear knowing Christ is the only thing that's important to him (Phil 3:8-11).

Paul went on to say his main focus now is to continue working towards reaching the goal of living diligently for God (Phil 3:12-14). Jesus said a faithful servant must be trusted by his master and be prepared at any time for an account to be required of his master's investment (Lk 12:42-48). This parable illustrated that God has invested in each and every one of us and he is expecting a return.

Whatever we do therefore, we must do it onto God as diligently as we can. We must also know he has equipped us with everything we need to do the work he's called us to do, and recognise the gifts he's given us (Matt 25:14-15).

Just like a blind man whose life was changed by Jesus once, we all have testimonies we can narrate and tell the world, if we're paying attention to them (John 9:1-27). God's light is shining within us (John 1:1-9). We need to share it with the world and let it be seen (Matt 5:14-15; Rom 12:1; 6-8; 11).

Samuel's mother gave him to the Lord (1 Sam 1:26-28). When Samuel grew up, he didn't deviate from that path, continuing to give himself in service to Israel and the people of God. We've all been given gifts to edify the body of Christ and help each other. Let's use them to the glory of God. That's why Paul asks us to take care how we build on the foundation Christ laid for us (1 Cor 3:10-15).

Bottom line:

We make the effort, and God can inspire it in us, but God is the enabler and the achiever within us. He can call us to excellence, to maximise our talent and efforts, but he's the one that assures the result, if and when we're willing. Let's be a blessing, or even more, to God and others, like Dorcas was (Acts 9:36-42).

RCCG Bethel Parish

The pillar of truth, defining the future today