

*** 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).

VERSE(S) OF THE DAY

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Galatians 2:20 (NKJV)

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.

His Cross, My Victory

if His cross is the only victory I experience in this life
it is more than enough
to satisfy my deepest longings
now and for all eternity
none of my losses and defeats
no matter how painful or shameful to me
can withstand the boundless oceans of mercy
still flowing
from His triumph over the deadliest enemies of my soul
and from my inclusion in His victory

(by Don Pucik)

Image source(s): <https://equippingsaints.com/2018/11/20/his-cross-my-victory/>



Sunday 3 October 2021

WELCOME

Redeemed Christian Church of God

Bethel

WEEKLY SERVICES & MEETINGS

SUNDAY

Thanksgiving / Worship service
From 10am

FRIDAY

Prayer meeting / Bible study
From 7pm

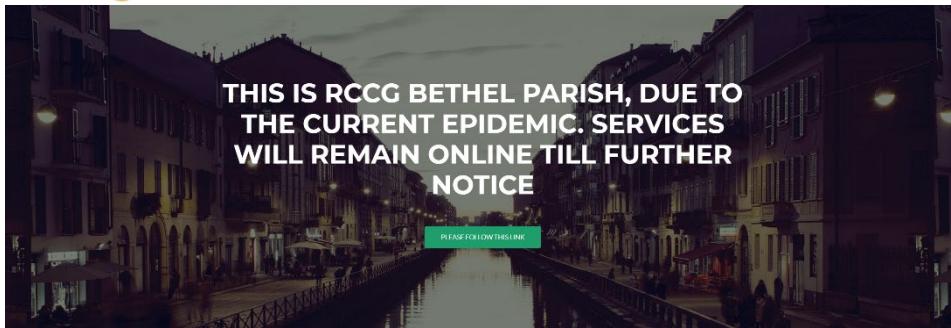
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Our 'must-visit' website



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

Enemies of the cross

Text: Philippians 3:17-21

In Philippians 3:12-16, we learnt that we needed to continue to press forward as Christians without losing sight of what we've already gained (Phil 3:13-14). God promised that as long as the earth remains, seed and harvest times will never cease (Gen 8:22; Prov 4:18). In our text today, Paul talks about "enemies of the cross" whose conduct reflect who they really are (Phil 3:18-19).

When Jesus was leaving, he told his disciples they're his friend and no longer "**servants, because a servant does not know his master's business**" (Jn 15:15). A friend is someone you don't keep anything away from, someone you're vulnerable with and close to. A lot of us benefit from that sort of relationship and those that people close to us have built for several years (Prov 18:24; 27:10).

We will always need a friend and we get a lot of benefit from the kind of relationship Jesus promised us (Jn 15:15). However, what happens when a friend acts like an enemy, especially when they appear or pretend to love you even as they undermine you? One of the most common scenario of this is in Matthew 26:47-50 when Judas betrayed Jesus. This gives a new meaning to the saying that actions are louder than words. Our conduct speaks a lot about who we really are (1 Tim 3:14-15).

Paul said if we only live for the present or pleasure, we're dead. (1 Tim 5:6; Eph 6:12). In 1 John 2:15-17, we're told not to love the world and the things in the world and not to lay our treasures "**where moths and vermin destroy and where thieves break in and steal**" (Matt 6:19-21; Rom 12:1-2). Are we building up mansions and storing up treasures in the world or are we like Abraham, who put his faith in the promise of a "**city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God**" (Heb 11:9-10)?

When we're focused on eternity consistently, it takes our attention away from God. Jesus met Peter fishing and made him fishers of men, changing his focus (Lk 5:4-5). The moment Peter faced discouragement after Jesus was crucified, he returned to fishing (Jn 21:1-3). We must not let what we see or feel discourage us to a point where we lose our focus.

Our greatest treasure is God (Gen 15:1). It is not about things we've acquired or surround ourselves with or the promises we may have been given by men. It is about the way we live our lives and the things that are important to us. Thankfully, Jesus redeemed Peter (Jn 21:15-18) and the next time Peter faced challenges in Acts 4:23-24, we see he's learnt that lesson.

Bottom line:

When we prioritise the things of the world or turn elsewhere when we're facing challenges (Psa 121:1-2) we're acting like the enemy of the cross or as if we don't have a relationship with God and our conduct bears that out.

RCCG Bethel Parish

The pillar of truth, defining the future today