

TODAY'S FACILITATORS

PRAYER: Bola

OFFERING: Isaac

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

Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall [c]orrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.

Daniel 11:32 (NKJV)

THEME FOR THE YEAR

Our theme this year is to **enlarge and build better (Isaiah 54:2-3)**, and by God's grace, we're trusting that the boundary lines will fall for us in pleasant places (Amen).

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 23 January 2022

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



Image source(s): <https://jesus.net/miracle/god-can-transform-your-life/> // <https://www.josephprince.com/meditate-devo/do-great-exploits>

Our 'must-visit' website



[Home](#) [Our Focus](#) [About us](#) [Contact Us](#) [Sermons](#) [Privacy Policy](#)

THIS IS RCCG BETHEL PARISH, DUE TO THE CURRENT EPIDEMIC. SERVICES WILL REMAIN ONLINE TILL FURTHER NOTICE

[PLEASE FOLLOW THIS LINK](#)

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

A transformed life

Text: Colossians 1:1-6

An introduction to an exposition on the book of Colossians explains that the mainstay of each of Paul's greater epistles has in it one salient thought. To the Romans, it's justification by faith, to the Ephesians, the mystical union of Christ and his church, to the Philippians, the joy of Christian progress, but to the Colossians, the emphasis is on the dignity and sole sufficiency of Jesus Christ as the mediator and the head of all creator and the church.

The book of Colossians is one of Paul's prison epistles and the lack of personal references may imply he didn't start the church. Our text today says the good news that came too us has gone all over the world, bearing fruit and changing lives. That suggests therefore that if the gospel is not bearing fruit, it isn't effective. Until truth is understood, it cannot change anything. Like a hymn says, the knowledge of God's glory will cover the earth as the water covers the seas. It is not mystical or abstract. Somewhere right now, someone is carrying or spreading it.

The word of God tells us we've been guaranteed a confident assurance by the Holy Spirit (Eph 4:25-32). So, the gospel is not telling us to do something so we can be saved, but because we're saved. There must be a before and after in our lives and a clear demarcation between them. Just saying we're saved doesn't mean anything until it shows in our behaviour and life-style (Lk 3:7-14; 1 Cor 6:9-11) and the change must be not only in life, but in death (1 Cor 15:42-58).

There's a practice in some churches of giving baptismal names to indicate they're no longer the same person. The same happens in a different form when Saul becomes Paul after his conversion (Acts 9:1-19) and Simon was named Peter by Jesus (Jn 1:42). If we all look at our lives, we should be able to pin-point a time when the trajectory changed who we used to be died.

If the fruit of the gospel is not apparent in us, then we need to question whether we've allowed it to transform our lives. God wants to transform us into new people by changing the way we think (Rom 12:1-2 – NLT; Pro 4:23-27 – GNT). God knows the thoughts of man (Jn 1:48). We see a physical manifestation and illustration of this on the mount of transfiguration (Matt 17:1-5). Everything pales into insignificance beside a transformed life.

However, it is a gradual process and incremental as we become transformed into the image of God's son, Jesus (2 Cor 3:16-18; 13:11-12). We often hear prayer changes things, but what it actually changes is us, until we're transformed enough to partner with God so he can achieve his purpose in us. As we begin to know God more, we begin to do great exploits in our understanding (Col 1:9-10). Before God could work through Abram, he had to become Abraham (Gen 17:1-8) and a man willing to sacrifice his only son, who was promised to him by God (Gen 22:1-14).

Bottom line:

God is going to do great things through us this year. But for that to occur, we must be renewed and transformed daily by his word (Rom 12:2). Then we can accomplish great things for God.

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