

## TODAY'S FACILITATORS

**PRAYER:** Remy

**OFFERING:** David

**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

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

*Proverbs 3:5-6 (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.

*When Jesus Is First  
Everything falls into Place*



Image source(s): <https://pixels.com/featured/put-jesus-first-lorna-rogers-photography.html>



Sunday 27 February 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

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WEB: [www.rccgbethel.church](http://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

### ***Christ must be first in everything***

#### **Text: Colossians 1:18**

Our theme for this year is to enlarge and to build better and it is always a good problem when we find we have more than the capacity we have. When Jesus fed thousands, he ensured the excess food is not wasted. It is often the case that we think we need much before we can feel blessed and we find it easier to ignore what we have and concentrate on what we don't have. We see the same thing in the parable of the talents. Like the man that was given one talent, we bury and fail to use whatever we do have (Matt 25:14-30).

The book of Colossians have been challenging us a lot in recent times. In our text today, we're told Christ is first in everything. That is to say he holds the first place. Jesus once met some people who told him they had other things to do first before they can follow him and he challenged each of their priorities. This is because nothing can come first before Jesus Christ (Lk 9:57-62).

Sometimes, Jesus is just one of many solutions when we come to him. Here, we're told he must be first. When Jesus said it is harder for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven, it's not because he hates wealth. He knows that means there's a choice and so many other considerations before the kingdom. He went on to say he must be number one and not one of the many things he can give us (Matt 19:23-30).

It is interesting that Abraham was willing to give back the child he'd waited years for without question. That's because he trusted that God who gave him Isaac can give him another son (Gen 22:1-14). The way we handle and face crises often reveal if he's number one in our lives. Elisha got rid of everything leading back to his old life (1 Kn 19:19-21). It suggests that he was never going back and he made sure of it.

The problem with us is that we always have options to go return to. The Israelites had the same problem and would always cry for what they had before (Exo 2:23-25). Even so, the bible said God understood (Exo 2:25). After Jesus was crucified, the disciples were the same too. They went back to fishing (Jn 21:1-4). Peter forgot he met Jesus at a low point in his life, when he had fished all night and caught nothing (Luke 5:5-8).

God cannot revolve around our options. We cannot ask him to sanction what we desire or want. He must be first. The book of Job showed us a man who went through one of the most challenging periods and suffered depression. He was rich and had so many children, but was reduced to having nothing and no one to depend on. However, one saving grace for him is that God is first and foremost in his life (Job 1:21).

#### **Bottom line:**

Let's remember that our real life is in Christ. He never calls us to suffer, but to live our real life in Christ, we cannot have other options. He must be first and foremost in everything. It must be an everyday decision for us, from the moment we wake up.

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