

TODAY'S FACILITATORS

PRAYER: Yetunde

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

For you formed my inward parts; you covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvelous are your works, and that my soul knows very well.

Psalm 139:13-14 (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 visit our website to find out how.



Sunday 10 July 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

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

Greed versus ambition

Text: Colossians 3:5

The baseline expectation for Christians is that we seek the "**kingdom of God and his righteousness**" first (Matt 6:33; Lk 9:23-25), not to give in to desires of the flesh (1 Jn 2:16), to look onto the interests of others, love our neighbours as ourselves (Phil 2:3-4), not to seek glory from man (Jn 5:44; 1 Jn 2:16) and so on.

Jesus may have shown us how this works in practice at his weakest. After fasting for forty days and nights, he was still able to resist the devil's promised rewards in return for worship (Matt 4:8-10). Paul told us about his ambition in Romans 15:17-20, to preach. His preference is for a quiet productive life driven by the desire to show brotherly love to each other (1 Thess 4:9-12).

Prophet Jeremiah implied the same concept to Baruch the son of Neriah who was his Secretary, telling him not to seek things for himself (Jer 45:5). Jesus went further when he washed his disciples' feet (John 13:12-17; Lk 9:23-25). He rebuked his disciples when they argued about greatness, telling them the greatest should be the younger and those who serve (Lk 22:24-27; 2 Pet 5:5; Js 3:14). Instead, we submit and remain dependent on God (Pro 3:5-6; Psa 34:10; 73:26; 84:11; 121:1-2; Jn 15:5; Phil 4:11; Matt 6:34).

That doesn't mean we can't be ambitious. God commanded us to be fruitful and multiply (Gen 1:28; Matt 7:7-12). However, our ambition must take a back seat to our walk and relationship and dependency on God at all times and in all things. Also, Paul as a tent maker practiced a hardworking and ambitious lifestyle that's a means to an end rather than the end itself (Acts 20:35).

The Psalmist told us all our days are written in God's book, even before we were born (Psa 139:13-16). Over and over again, he shows us he's in control, that he can deliver and provide for us and yet we fret and strive. We think we have to do something to be somebody. Our ambition should be for higher gifts that will glorify God's kingdom (1 Jn 2:15-16). We walk by faith and not by sight, making it our mission to please God (2 Cor 5:1-9) and seek a more excellent way (1 Cor 12:31).

Bottom line:

Our ambition must be driven by the purpose of God for us. We need to discover that first and ensure we're not driven by world values and opinions on who we should be.

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