

TODAY'S FACILITATORS

PRAYER: Austin

OFFERING: Ben

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

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with me.

Revelation 3:20 (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.

IT'S
USELESS
TO WORK SO HARD FOR A LIVING
getting up early and going to bed late
THE LORD PROVIDES
FOR THOSE HE LOVES WHILE THEY
SLEEP

~ PSALM 127:2 ~

Image source(s): <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/97671885641919783/>



Sunday 24 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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admin@rccgbethel.church

WEB: www.rccgbethel.church

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

Entering his rest

Text: Hebrews 3:8-19

Suppose you're invited to live in a country where everyone's commanded not to work for a whole year, after every six years. It begins at the sound of the trumpets. Everything need is provided free of charge and everyone can do what they want. In addition, on the fiftieth year, all debts will be cancelled. How many people will want to live in that country?

Some of us may find something like that impossible. Some may also consider the Sabbath concept impractical, but that was God's initial plan for the Israelites (Lev 25:1-34; 26:27-35; 40-45). Of course, that requires a lot of trust and willingness to depend on God. It isn't surprising therefore, that the Israelites found it difficult. God became angry with them and declared they will never enter his rest (Heb 3:8-19).

Eventually, God forced them to give the land a rest for seventy years (Lev 26:34-35; Jer 29:10; 30:3). During the pandemic lockdown, millions were furloughed and effectively paid not to work. They began to find time for more meaningful pursuits and work-life balance became easier. Although there were some who found it isolating or lonely and some were at risk of domestic abuse, but millions thrived, spending more time with close family members than before.

God gave the Israelites a land flowing with milk and honey and promised them physical rest. The provision was made, but they never took advantage of it. What rest is God talking about? We can see an illustration in the story about Martha and Mary. While Martha was busy worrying about being hospitable, Mary found rest in the presence of Jesus (Lk 10:38-42). God's rest is timely and without stress. It focuses on what's important, tailor-made for each and everyone of us. It is a promise that remains for us too today (Heb 4:9-14).

Jesus called all who labour and are heavy laden to find rest in him and take on his yoke instead (Matt 11:28-30). It is not necessarily about lack of toiling, but what it entails and Jesus declared it is a secret hidden from the wise and prudent, and revealed to babes. That's why Paul found rest in his trust in Christ when he was warned about impending imprisonment (Acts 20:22-24) and Paul supports the notion that rest is about our focus (Acts 20:25-38). Each of us must find the place of our rest in God.

The whole idea of the Sabbath is to allow us to focus only on God. God wants to free us from unnecessary stress about things that may not matter in the long run. He wants us to enter into our rest (Heb 4:11-12). Jesus said the eyes light the body and when it works well, our whole body is full of light. When it doesn't, we're in darkness (Matt 6:22-23). In the same way, we may be too stressed to give God room in our lives and the kingdom of God is not just about righteousness, but peace and joy in the Holy Spirit (Rom 14:17).

Bottom line:

We can only find rest in God when we allow ourselves to depend on him for all things and in all things. It is only then we find a peace which passes human understanding (Heb 4:9-14; Phil 4:6-7).

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