

## TODAY'S FACILITATORS

**PRAYER:** Remy

**OFFERING:** Elizabeth

**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).

The word of God will challenge you, inspire you, and give you hope. The word of God will bring you joy. The word of God might confuse you too. For this reason, every time you open your Bible, you should pray and ask the Holy Spirit, the author of Scripture, to open your mind and your heart to receive what God has for you.

—Mark Hart,

*Unleashing the Power of Scripture*

## VERSE(S) OF THE DAY

Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; for I am called by Your name, O Lord God of hosts.

*Jeremiah 15:16 (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 25 September 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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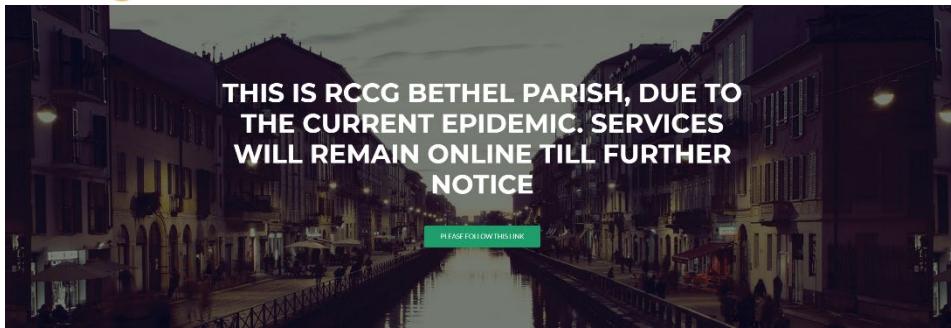
[admin@rccgbethel.church](mailto:admin@rccgbethel.church)

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

### *The key to unleashing the power of the word*

#### Text: 1 Thessalonians 2:13

In this verse, Paul stated that the Thessalonians not only received by accepted the words they heard as the word of God. In contrast, the Bereans searched and made sure what they heard was the truth (Acts 17:11). Some of us may fall in one or both categories.

Arguably, bibles are the biggest best seller today, almost ubiquitous, both in printed text and online. In the past, it wasn't always and in some parts of the world, it's still not. It is also one of the most quoted and often misquoted books in the world. Paul stated that the word of God continues to work in the Thessalonians because they accepted and believed it. It suggests it may not work if they don't, as if God needs our permission before he can work in us.

When words are spoken, they're either welcomed (NKJV) or rejected, illustrated by the parable of the sower (Matt 13:1-58). To unlock the potential of the word of God in us, we need to make that possible or easy and that may be applicable to several things in life. Everything, including us, plants, electronic equipment etc., need a power source to unlock its potential.

In the same way, the word of God can be a power source for us (Jn 1:1-4). Our spirit man need the word of God to achieve its purpose (1 Cor 2:9; Isa 40:13; Jn 4:24; 6:63-70). However, power also needs an ignition or starter and that's our belief or faith in Christ Jesus. We may have been informed at certain points in our lives that our prayers are not answered because we don't have enough faith and pray enough. We may have wondered how much faith we needed.

The story of Lazarus may give us an illustration (Jn 11:23-37). Lazarus's death tested the faith of several who love him. When Jesus told Martha anyone who believe in him must live and asked if Martha believed that, she avoided answering Jesus's question (Jn 11:25). Martha obviously believes in Jesus, but found it impossible to suspend the reality of a man who have been dead for four days and believe Jesus can raise him up. Martha required another level of faith.

Peter had to suspend logic to walk on water too and when Peter's faith flagged and he began to sink, he cried out to Jesus for help (Matt 14:22-33). This shows there are levels of faith. Later in life, we can see how easy it was for Peter to perform miracles (e.g. Acts 3:6-16; Acts 9:40). Likewise, a day will come when God will ask each of us to vacate our comfort zones, suspend logic and our realities. We will be asked to rise to another level of faith. Logic and reality rock the foundations of our faith. That's why we need to base our belief only on the word of God.

The people of Israel found it difficult to believe Moses in the face of great difficulties (Ex 5:1-23), but God assured Moses they will come to know him as Yahweh, the Almighty God and he will reaffirm his covenant with them and rescue them (Ex 6:1-8). Unfortunately, we know the people of Israel could never sustain their faith in God, in the face of several realities along the way. That cost many of them an entry into the promise land (Num 14:26-30).

#### Bottom line:

When the time comes to suspend logic and reality in order to believe (Mk 11:23-24), will you? Our faith may determine how far we go, but note that we're called to use it as a channel of blessing and not for ourselves. God's word is for his own purpose, not ours (Isa 55:11).

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