

TODAY'S FACILITATORS

PRAYER: Ben

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

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who ... has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you.

1 Peter 1:3-4 (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.

Holiness Defined

The term "holy" is often understood in its contemporary usage rather than its true meaning in the Scriptures.

The Bible states that:

(1) To be holy is to be distinct, separate, in a class by oneself.

The primary meaning of holy is "separate." It comes from an ancient word that meant, "to cut," or "to separate."

This means that the one who is holy is uniquely holy, with no rivals or competition.



Sunday 20 November 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:**

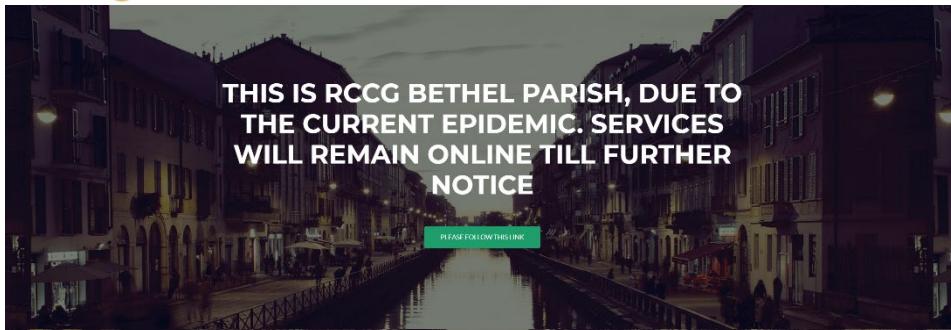
admin@rccgbethel.church

WEB: www.rccgbethel.church

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

What is holiness?

Text: 1 Thessalonians 5: 23

This verse tells us God himself will make us "**blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ comes again**". What comes to our mind when we hear the word "holy"? Hebrews 12:14 emphasises that a holy life is essential before we can see God. "Holiness" in this verse is translated by Strong as to "**the effect of consecration: sanctification of heart and life.**"

Although we're told we can't see God without holiness, we know Isaiah once did, even when he considered himself "**a man of unclean lips**," dwelling among the unclean and polluted (Isa 6:1-5). We may also note that in places where the scriptures told the story of people who saw God, they were never blameless and begin to understand there's a depth to the "**seeing**" mentioned in the verse above.

It is about seeing God as he really is. Like Habakkuk, often we're confounded by this concept, wondering why God favours the sinful and doesn't help his own people (Hab 1:12-13). Jeremiah told us there is a seeking and searching necessary before God allows himself to be seen by us (Jer 29:13).

The truth is people only allow us to see what they want us to see of them. We also make conclusions about people without really knowing them. It is the same with God and we see that all through the scriptures (Psa 103:7). We can only know God when we have a depth of intimacy and relationship with him (Exo 33:11-23; Num 12:8; Acts 13:22).

We're called to be sanctified and set apart from sin and the things of the world (2 Cor 6:17; 1 Jn 2:15-17). God is always ready to be found, even when we're not looking for him (Isa 65:1-2; Rom 10:19-21). The good news is that God himself is the one to make us holy. Whatever we think holiness is, God is able to render us blameless before himself (Isa 6:6-8).

Bottom line:

We've been made holy by the blood of Jesus (Heb 10:10). Therefore, we can boldly come before the thrown of grace and obtain mercy (Heb 4:16). However, we cannot take this for granted (Rom 6:1-2). Therefore, seek God with all seriousness until he allows you to really see him (Jer 29:13).

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