

TODAY'S FACILITATORS

PRAYER: Elizabeth

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).

“We were saved in hope. If we see what we hope for, that isn't hope. Who hopes for what they already see? But if we hope for what we don't see, we wait for it with patience.”

ROMANS 8:24-25

Image source(s): <https://www.womansday.com/life/inspirational-stories/q27654150/bible-verses-about-hope/> // <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/k99tG6NVl2tSk8GSY6Jf/why-we-should-all-hold-on-to-hope>

VERSE(S) OF THE DAY

But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings like eagles. They shall run and not be weary. They shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 40:31 (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 30 October 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:

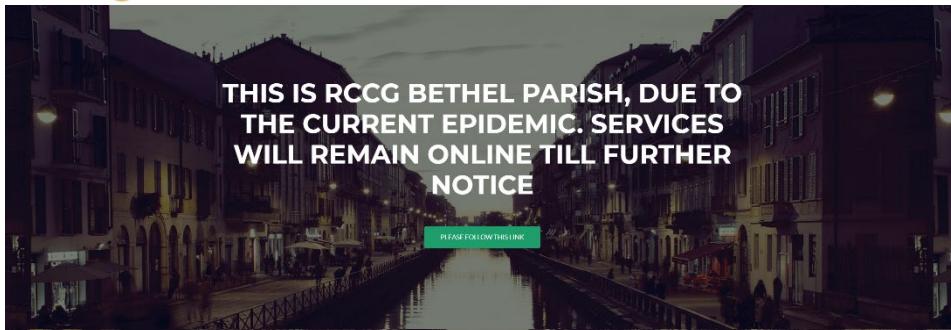
admin@rccgbethel.church

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

Hope

Text: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-10

Is it possible to live without sin? That is a question we come to again and again, over time and the answer for us is yes. It is possible to live without sin for us Christians, because when we accepted Christ as our Lord and Saviour, we take on his nature (2 Cor 5:17). Our nature has changed and we no longer have the sinful nature (Gal 2:20-21; Rom 8:11).

Some challenging things have been going on today, especially in the UK. It may feel a bit like the world is upside down. All of these are having a profound and devastating impact on our lives, our standards of living and it is global. Our text today talks about times and seasons. They affect all of us. There are times of rain and sunshine. Wisdom may suggest we prepare for them.

That's why we're told to be keenly aware of what's wear going on and wear a protective armour to preserve our salvation (1 Thes 5:8). However, there are times we can't and they come upon us suddenly. The bible says God has not saved us to pour out his anger on us (1 Thes 5:9 – NLT). That's the start of our hope today.

Hope can often take us a long way. It assures us things will get better, but the truth is, it is not fact or certainty and better or good times may never come. Also, when we have to put on our armour in the hope of salvation, it may feel like assurance is not guaranteed, but in Christ Jesus, it is (1 Thes 5:8). For Christians, hope is not a strategy, but the only strategy, especially when there's no logical reason to hope anymore (Rom 4:18).

That's why Paul told us not to live like people without hope (1 Thes 4:13). It is the reason we make any effort, because when we live in despair, we give up (1 Kn 17:12). God's faithfulness never ends and his mercies are renewed every morning (Lam 3:1-3; 16-18; 20-23). That's why Paul says he still had hope (1 Cor 15:19).

In these hard times, believe in hope, hold on to the word of God for your life. Don't waiver from that, no matter what. Let your hope and faith get stronger. Like Abraham, have the confidence that God who has promised will bring it to pass (Rom 4:18-21). These time and season may be hard, with high cost of living and so on, believe it is not an accident. It isn't to God. Tell yourself it is your time and your season to triumph and thrive.

Bottom line:

Even when there's no reason to hope, keep hoping, knowing that believing in hope means you know it's going to get better (Rom 4:18).

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