

Sunday worship

Join online

<http://bit.ly/3TSxxek>

Watch on YouTube

<http://bit.ly/3aCxmjW>

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

That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, 11 if, by any means, I may attain[a] to the resurrection from the dead.

Philippians 3:9-11 (NKJV)

THEME FOR THE YEAR

Faith in action (2 Thessalonians 1:11)

We're trusting God to enable us to do all the good things faith prompts in us in Jesus name (NLT).

DID YOU KNOW?

Every Sunday, we worship together at **Unit 13, Skylines Village**. When unable to attend, do visit our website or YouTube channel for recorded sessions.

KNOWING GOD PERSONALLY

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Jesus Christ is God's only solution for our sin. Through him alone we can know God and experience his love and forgiveness.

“Jesus is unique – ‘Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation.’
COLOSSIANS 1:15

“Jesus died in our place – ‘Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you home safely to God.’
1 PETER 3:18A

“Jesus came back to life – ‘During the forty days after his crucifixion, he appeared to the apostles from time to time, and he proved to them in many ways that he was actually alive.’ ACTS 1:3A
His resurrection proved that he was God and that he had suffered God's punishment in our place.

Jesus is the only way to know God

“Jesus told him, ‘I am the way, the truth and the life. No-one can come to the Father except through me.’ JOHN 14:6

Although we deserve to be cut off from God forever, in his love God sent Jesus to pay the penalty for our sins by dying on the cross.

Through Jesus, God has bridged the gap that separated us from him, and provided a way for us to be forgiven and restored to relationship with him.



It's not enough just to know these facts...



Sunday 23 April 2023

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

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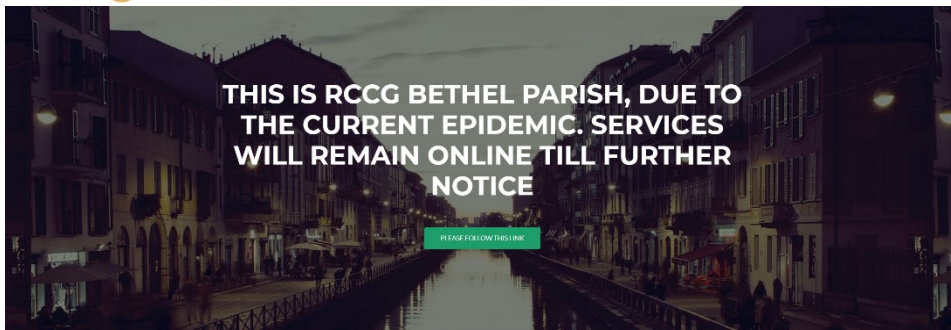
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WEB: www.rccgbethel.church

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

Knowing God beyond reputation

Text: 1 John 1:1

Last week we focused on the living word according to John. During our Sunday School session this morning, we were talking about what to say if asked about homosexuality or anything the Bible calls a sin. This is somewhat related to what we'll explore in this verse again today. Jesus told us not to worry when we're brought before kings (Mk 13:11). We may find Jesus's reactions to people who came to him a couple of times curious. He was welcoming in one and less so in another (Jn 1:35-40; Matt 8:18-22).

What's the difference? It may be because one of them was a Scribe and Jesus knew their core motives. When John talked about seeing, looking upon, handling, knowing and touching the Word of life, the first thing to say is that God is the one that gives us permission to handle, know or touch him (Psa 27:8). This is expressed in one of the songs we sang this morning. God is beyond understanding ("Almighty God" by Tim Hughes).

There's a joy that belongs to people God chooses to bring near to him (Psa 65:1-4). How do we know a God like this? Maybe that's why Paul prayed for comprehension of the "**width and length and depth and height**" (Eph 3:18). How can we touch a God that cannot be contained? We may begin to see the limitations in thinking we can convince people to following God. We rely on our senses e.g. seeing, touching etc., to know someone. What do we know of God and how do we tell others about him? The Bible says creation tells us about God (Rom 1:20-21), but how do we describe him to others?

Jesus once asked his disciples what the people and later, his disciples say about him (Matt 16:13-20). He knows some only testify of him by reputation. How about you? Do you only know of him by reputation or in truth? If you know him as a Saviour or healer, has he saved or healed you? Peter's response was commended by Jesus as a revelation from the Holy Spirit (Matt 16:16-17). We can only know God by experience, when he allows us to.

It is when we experience God as the solution giver that we can find solutions in the word of God. That's when the word of God becomes living and breathing and how we can obtain peace from reading a verse when troubled (e.g. Phil 4:7). If we're not careful, all we really know of God is what we've been told and not what we've experienced. Jesus posed this conundrum to his disciples (Matt 22:41-46). Paul's convinced (2 Tim 1:11-12). Are you?

Our senses question the illogical. So, we must go beyond them to learn how God speaks to and reaches out to us. This could change from time to time too. God is beyond our understanding and he knows his plan for each of his creation (Jer 29:11). We cannot pigeonhole God. So, we must go God beyond the letters of the Word and reputation. When he chooses to let us, we must get away from talking about the God of Abraham etc.

Bottom line:

We must know God for who he really is. That's when we can get revelations from the word of God to sustain us. Like Moses, let's pray that God will show us his glory (Exo 33:18-23).

RCCG Bethel Parish

Pillar of truth ... defining the future today