

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

I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

Galatians 5:16-17 (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.

Those who walk in the spirit will show forth daily, moment-by-moment holiness. This is brought about by consciously choosing by faith to rely on the Holy Spirit to guide in thought, word and deed.

Image source(s): <https://www.soulshpherdina.org/walk-in-the-light-of-christ/> // <https://www.gotquestions.org/Spirit-walk.html>



Sunday 28 May 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

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Our 'must-visit' website



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THIS IS RCCG BETHEL PARISH, DUE TO THE CURRENT EPIDEMIC. SERVICES WILL REMAIN ONLINE TILL FURTHER NOTICE

[READ FOLLOWING 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

Walking in spiritual light

Text: 1 John 1:6-7

Our text today says we're not truthful about our fellowship with God when we persist in living in spiritual darkness. The good news is that God is light. So, it follows that we're not with God when we're not in the light. We may understand we need an unbroken fellowship with God, but do we know it's a three-way cord, linking us with him and with one another?

It may be worth exploring what fellowship actually means or how God cleanses us from sin at another time. Today, the emphasis is on remaining faithfully in the light. Even when faithless, the scripture says God remains faithful, because he cannot do otherwise (2 Tim 2:12-13). That was why Jonah refused to obey God and warn the people of Nineveh. He knew God is merciful and will forgive them if they repent. God cannot deny himself and Jonah knew that too, but had to be reminded he cannot hide from God.

The people of Nineveh also know about God's mercy and they became penitent. How do we reconcile that with what our text says today, reminding us that we lie if we remain in darkness and say we fellowship with God? We often see death as final or terrible and we sorrow and grieve. How does that fit in with what Jesus told Martha, that whoever believes in him will never die (Jn 11:25-26)? We either believe that and rejoice or be sad.

However, the true tragedy is when we live a lie throughout our whole lives, when we're spiritually blind or live in the darkness. The text today implies that sin has forms and is not one-dimensional. One manifestation of sin is distress (Lk 7:48-50; Psa 51:3-4; 7-9). As Christians, we're in distress when we do not live in the reality of God's grace. Sin also paralyses us or make us go round in circles (Mk 2:5; Psa 51:3; Deut 2:1-3).

God never changes and never lies. The scriptures emphasises that God does what he says, especially when he swears by himself (Num 23:19; Heb 6:15-18). Before Peter saw Jesus, his reality was that they were at risk and about to sink in the middle of a storm, until Jesus walked on water to him (Matt 14:22-33). When he saw Jesus, Peter left his reality and began to walk on water too, even when the storm never stopped and was still raging. In fact, Peter began to sink only when he took his eyes off Jesus and began to live a lie.

How often have we focused too much on our reality, instead of focusing on Christ? The good news is God doesn't abandon us even when we're faithless, because he remains faithful (Matt 14:31; 2 Tim 2:12-13). When we believe in the persecution we face everyday even in societies where we worship freely, we're living a lie and need to lift our eyes to Jesus who's the truth and our light (Jn 14:6). God who removed the "filthy garments" from Joshua and scores like him have and can do the same for us too (Zech 3:1-7).

Bottom line:

In the sermon on the mount, Jesus enjoined us to reject the way of the world (Matt 5-7). We must take our eyes off the storm of our lives and live in the reality of the light of God or we live a lie. It is not enough to believe the truth. We must practice and live in it (1 Jn 1:6).

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