

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

Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."

Luke 17:20-21 (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.

King-dom of God, *n.* the ruling government of God administered by Jesus Christ and His family. That government will include the four basic elements of any government:

1. **Leadership:** Jesus Christ
2. **Law:** The Ten Commandments
3. **Territory:** The entire Earth
4. **Subjects:** Every nation

Image source(s): <https://lifehopeandtruth.com/life/blog/the-kingdom-of-god-will-end-suffering-and-evil/>



Sunday 27 August 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

[PLEASE FOLLOW THIS 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

The drivers of life: Understanding his kingdom

Text: 1 John 2:15-17 / Mark 4:24-34

For a while we've been studying the book of 1 John and in 1 John 2:15-17, we're told the things of the world—the lust of the flesh, eyes and the pride of life—are not of the father. So, we wondered about the gifts the father gives. They include the **Holy Spirit, peace, understanding and insight** and **God's great and precious promises**. In recent weeks, we've delved into the first two of the four main areas of **understanding and insight**: understanding the word of God and his essential nature.

Today, we'll continue to explore the third area of **understanding and insight: understanding his kingdom**. Jesus was keen for his disciples to understand the kingdom of God. He talked about it so much they asked when it'll come (Lk 17:20-21; Lk 19:11). He told them it cannot be detected by visible signs or measured by physical metrics, adding that it is already among them.

That's why Jesus told the Samaritan Woman God is worshiped in Spirit and not in a specific place (Jn 4:21-23). Like the air, it is everywhere. Paul explained it further, adding that it's not about what we eat or drink, but "**living a life of goodness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit**" (Rom 14:12-19 NLT). These are the signs that the kingdom is present inside us, when we live it.

We often look for physical rewards from God, but Jesus enjoined us not to labour for bread that will perish (Jn 6:27). Therefore, just as we're carriers of his peace (Phil 4:7), we're supposed to be carriers of his kingdom too, exhibiting the qualities of kingdom living (Matt 5:14-16). We're his ambassadors, carrying his kingdom everywhere we go (2 Cor 5:20), and not subject to the laws of any other kingdom. That means the enemy cannot touch us.

To illustrate this to his disciples who just didn't get it, Jesus told a parable about a noble ruler who went on to a far country to be crowned king and gave talents to his servants to do business (Lk 19:11-27). Instead, his subjects rejected him, but whether they liked it or not, he's going to be the king and will require returns on his investments. What talents has God deposited in you or committed into your hands? The noble ruler punished the servant who failed to live up his responsibilities. We must understand our responsibilities as part of God's kingdom.

Bottom line:

To understand God's kingdom, we must first understand the King (Jesus) and what he requires from us (Jn 14:9). God can give us wealth, possessions or other physical blessings, but they come and go. Our spiritual growth in Christ and living a life of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit are what will endure.

RCCG Bethel Parish

Pillar of truth ... defining the future today