### 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

Therefore let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father. And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life.

1 John 2:24-25 (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.

"For all the promises
of God in Him are
Yes, and in Him
Amen, to the glory of
God through us."

2 Corinthians 1:20



## **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



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 (<a href="http://rccgbethel.church/sermons/">http://rccgbethel.church/sermons/</a>). 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 (<a href="http://rccgbethel.church/category/bulletins/">http://rccgbethel.church/category/bulletins/</a>).

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**

- 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 <a href="http://rccgbethel.church/">http://rccgbethel.church/</a>.

#### **Mozilla Firefox**

- 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.
- Enter or paste the URL: <a href="http://rccgbethel.church/">http://rccgbethel.church/</a> 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.
- Select Settings and select A Specific Page or Pages from the Open Microsoft Edge With section drop down options.
- 3. Enter <a href="http://rccgbethel.church/">http://rccgbethel.church/</a>. (Click the Plus sign to add more pages if required).
- 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: God's precious promises (Part I)

Text: 1 John 2:15-17 / 2 Peter 1:2-4

Today we're looking into God's precious promises as part of our study of the gifts our Father gives to us. Peter emphasised that we have all we need to live a godly life because God gave us "great and precious promises ... to share his divine nature" (2 Pet 1:3-4 NLT). We'll talk about those promises, then the divine nature. The fact is the Christian faith hinges on a series of promises and everything God's done was in response to those promises.

In general, there are two types of promises. There's the normal ones made to each other and a lot of the time, we say them without realising the commitment we're making. For example, marriage is a promise a couples make to be together through their lifetime. Sometimes, there's a written contract to ensure they're kept e.g. when we take out a loan. However, even with our best intentions, we sometimes break them.

The second kind of promise is the divine promise that can only be made by God. An explanation of that promise can be found in the book of Hebrews 6:11-20. God swore and can never lie. Therefore, his promises, bound by his own oath, are **immutable** (Heb 6:17-18). That means it's unchangeable. There's no escape clause. It will always be fulfilled.

For example, when God promised to make Abraham a great nation, he was 75 years old (Gen 12:1-4). Tired of waiting, Sarah compelled Abraham to sleep with her maid Hagar and Ishmael was born (Gen 16:1-4), but God visited them again and affirmed his promise. Sarah will soon have a son. By then, Sarah was no longer able to bear children. So, she laughed (Gen 18:9-12). It took 25 years. Abraham was 100 and Sarah was 90, but God fulfilled his promise and Isaac was born (Gen 21:1-5).

#### **Bottom line:**

God made promises to each of us. Believe he will keep them, no matter how long it takes or how impossible it may seem.

# RCCG Bethel Parish

Pillar of truth ... defining the future today