

*** GIVE THANKS ***

Thanksgiving Service

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

In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 1:13-14 (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.

"Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise."

Hebrews 10:23
(NLT)

Image source(s): <http://www.therelationshipmirror.com/2021/06/06/trusting-god-101/let-us-hold-tightly-without-wavering-to-the-hope-we-affirm-for-god-can-be-trusted-to-keep-his-promise-hebrews-1023nlt-1/>

Sunday 1 October 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

Limeharbour, London E14 9TS

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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 (<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: God's precious promises (Part II)

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

We're exploring the precious promises of God, started last week, as part of our study of the gifts from the father. Peter emphasised that God's promises are what enables us to share in God's divine nature. We've accepted we've no power to make anyone fulfil their promise unless protections, agreements or contracts are in place to hold them to it.

These have evolved over time, but the questions we may ask are these. How do we reach an agreement with God or make him fulfil his promises to us? What if he changes his mind? Can we do anything to compel him? Promises that cannot be enforced are useless. So, if there's no way to hold God to his promises, are they useless?

Jacob's life is one example illustrating how fickle man's promises can be. Following a number of betrayals, Jacob told his wives that his Uncle Laban change his wages ten times, using it to justify going back home. Left to Laban alone, Jacob may never have amounted to anything, but God had other ideas (Gen 31:4-13, in context Gen 30:25-31:55).

Abraham grappled with the idea of a guarantee too, forced to ask God how he can be sure of the promises made to him. God confirmed his covenant with a ceremony we may not fully understand. It involves Abraham's sacrifice, a flaming torch and a visit to him in a deep sleep (Gen 15:1-21). God's bound by his own oath and can never renege as we understood last week (Heb 6:11-20). No one can change his promises and there's no break clause.

For example, the Israelites had wealth transfer before they left Egypt as a result of God's covenant with Abraham (Exo 12:35-36). When God makes promises to man, there's nothing man can do to hold him to it. Only God can hold himself to account, but there's no limitation to the extent he will go to fulfil his promises. He can change, suspend and make new laws if necessary.

Bottom line:

Has God promised you something? If he has, believe that he will fulfil it because he's faithful and cannot deny himself (Heb 10:23; 2 Tim 2:13).

RCCG Bethel Parish

The pillar of truth, defining the future today