

## 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

For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them." But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for "the just shall live by faith."  
*Galatians 3:10-11 (NKJV)*

## THEME FOR THE YEAR

**To be all in**  
**Hebrews 10:38-39 (AMP)**

Peter replied to him, "Lord, if it is [really] you, command me to come to you on the water." ~ *Matthew 14:28 (AMP)*.

## 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.



Sunday 19 May 2024

# 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

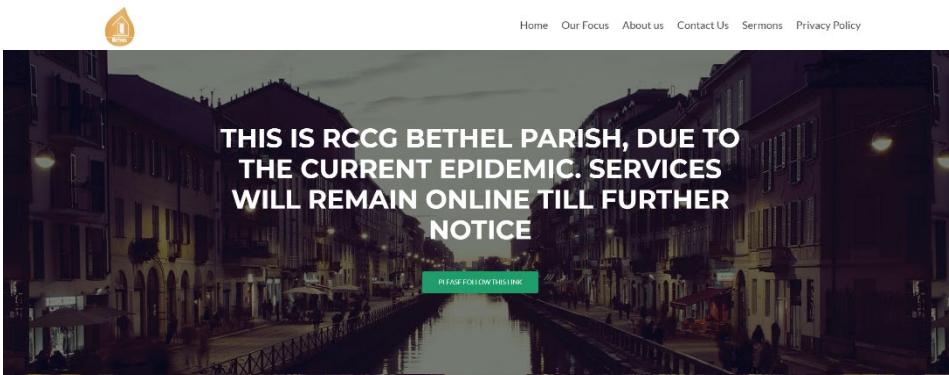
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# Our 'must-visit' website



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 beginning of curses*

#### **Text: Genesis 3:6-15**

Today is Pentecost, marking the day the Holy Spirit came upon the Apostles after the resurrection of Jesus. The Holy Spirit (the Spirit of God) was also there at the beginning of creation, "**hovering over the face of the waters**" (Gen 1:2). Afterwards, God blessed everything he had made (Gen 1:28-2:3). That was before the fall and the curse (Gen 3:14-15). The serpent was cursed "**more than anything**" God made.

Curses are real and they'll be fulfilled unless nullified (Prov 26:2). For example, a curse pronounced by Elisha came to pass instantly (2 Kn 5:26-27). We may well ask if there's a descendant of Gehazi alive today who may be leprous. Joshua also cursed anyone who dared to build the wall of Jericho (Josh 6:26). Centuries later, Hiel of Bethel was prepared to pay the cost. He lost his firstborn as he laid its foundation and his youngest son when he set up its gates, fulfilling the curse (1 Kn 16:32-36).

This suggests there's a force behind curses. It is possible to labour under them and find success unattainable. The same goes for God's blessing. Jacob was cheated again and again and still left Laban a wealthy man (Gen 31:7). Through Adam and Eve, man was cursed. The question for us is, are curses still applicable today? We can certainly see the impact of the curse in our relationships. God's intention was never for man to rule over a woman. Today, women's desire is for men and men hold onto the power to control or abuse their partners in certain cases. The curse changed the nature of everything.

However, the scriptures said Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law (Gal 3:11-13). So, when we obey God, it's not because of the ten commandments, but because we believe and love Christ, after he first loved us (2 Cor 3:18; Gal 2:20; Jn 15:13). The curse does something to us. It breeds enmity and defeat between us and the devil (Gen 3:15).

To illustrate, according to scientific research, there's no genetic marker that black athletes can run faster. Yet, the fact remains they do better in sports and that perception that can make or break champions. In the battle against good and evil, we're the champions and the enemy's cursed. What perception do you have about yourself? Do you think you're fighting an enemy that's always going to defeat you?

If we believe that or think it's difficult to live without sin, chances are it'll be true. Are curses powerful and do they always work? Yes. But a superior power can overcome them (1 Sam 2:25; Jn 16:33). Years after Ahab, Jezebel and their descendants were cursed (1 Kn 21:21-24), Jehu who was there when the curse was pronounced became the enforcer (2 Kn 9:23-26; 32-34). Likewise, it is fortunate for us that the Holy Spirit was present when the serpent was cursed. He lives within us and have the ability to nullify all curses (Acts 10:37-38).

#### **Bottom line:**

Curses are real, but in the battle of life, we can't fail unless we're influenced un the wrong perception because the devil can never win against us (Gal 3:11-13; Rom 16:20). We have in us the Holy Spirit, the enforcer. How then can we fail?

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