#### 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

If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

Luke 14:26-27 (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.

YOU ARE THE
OBJECT OF GOD'S
AFFECTION. HE
HAS RELENTLESSLY
PURSUED AND WILL
CONTINUE TO
PURSUE YOU.



# **WEEKLY SERVICES & MEETINGS**

#### SUNDAY

Thanksgiving / Worship service From 10am

# FRIDAY

Prayer meeting / Bible study
From 7pm

### RCCG Bethel Parish

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Image source(s): https://proverbs31.org/read/devotions/full-post/2023/02/01/gods-pursuit-of-us

# 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.
- 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 place of mercy in visions: Stop resisting God

Text: Genesis 12:1-9

We've been exploring different types of altars and their purpose in the last few weeks. Like Abram, some of us may have visions that propels us into action until it presents daunting challenges. Abram was told to go to a land God gave to him and his descendants, only to find it's inhabited by the Canaanites. Abraham's life journey seems a type of the Christian journey and as he travelled, his nephew Lot became a part of Abram's calling.

In time, both became so wealthy they had to part ways (Gen 13:5-11). Lot was called righteous, but he seems a type of Christian who doesn't have a vision or purpose of his own like Abraham (2 Pet 2:5-9; Heb 11:8-10). It doesn't make them less of a Christian, but sometimes, life happens to you when there's no God-given purpose.

There are times God sends someone to speak to us when we're no longer hearing from him. God knew Lot needed saving, otherwise God would've warned him of directly, instead of telling Abram. And although Abram never mentioned Lot, God knew Abram's pleading was because of his nephew (Gen 18:22-33; 19:27-29).

So, even when we're praying and feel we just can't find the right words, God knows exactly what we need and will answer our prayers (Matt 6:8). Abraham's walk with God wasn't a straightforward journey. He may've been described as a man of faith (Heb 11:8), but we know at some point, he lost hope God will give him the child promised and gave in to Sarah's demand to have a child through Haggai (Gen 16:1-2).

Like Abraham, we go through these periods too. Consider why Jesus chose to speak to Saul in Aramaic; a language that was already dying out (Acts 26:14-19). It is because there's a language he knows we will understand. Paul was fighting against God's will, kicking against the goad, and God needed to reach him.

God doesn't always make it easy for us at times. For example, he took the Israelites through a longer journey through the wilderness to toughen them up for the task ahead of them when they have to fight to take the Promise Land (Exo 13:17-18). We may have the same experiences too. God can redirect and order our steps towards his will. We just need to stop kicking against the goads because we can never do better than God's plan for our lives.

#### **Bottom line:**

Just as God made sure Paul and Jonah heard him through their pointless resistance (Acts 26:14; Jonah 1:1-2:10), God in his mercy can reach us and take us through our journeys to a place he wills too, regardless of our circumstances.

RCCG Bethel Parish

Pillar of ថ្ងៃប្រេស់ ... dəiining សែə iuturə today