### 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 judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God.

1 Corinthians 4:5 (NKJV)

#### THEME FOR THE YEAR

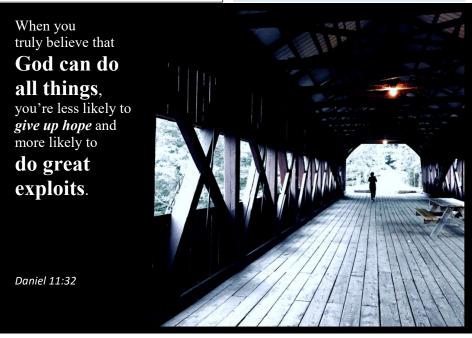
## To be all in

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.





## **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 PHONE: 07889906677 || EMAIL: admin@rccgbethel.church

WEB: www.rccgbethel.church

## 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).
- 4. Click the **three horizontal dots** to the right of the top menu bar again to close **Settings** menu.

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

# Making assumptions

Text: Genesis 16:1-3

When Abram moved to Canaan, he and his descendants were promised the land (Gen 17:8). Yet, ten years down the line Sarai, Abram's wife was still barren. She gave up hope and made an assumption. She said the Lord's prevented her from having a child. Sarai settled and came up with another plan.

How many of us have gotten a point where we concluded something we wanted badly was out of reach? We have no right or possess enough knowledge about the future to close doors in our lives. When we do, we're doing ourselves a disservice and may create problems like Sarai did for herself, bringing rivalry into her home.

When we give up and begin to accept alternatives for our lives and if we're not careful, it may be contrary to the will of God. Therefore, we must understand God's the only one qualified to open or shut a door (Rev 3:7-8). We must not give up on revelations from God because there are obstacles in our way (1 Cor 16:8-9). Our journeys in life may not be smooth, but God never promised us trouble-free paths through life.

There's a curious story in the book of Judges that led to the death of over forty thousand in battle before God gave them victory. After the children of Israel went to war with the children of Benjamin, to avenge an atrocity committed against their own, it was a costly endeavor (Jgs 19:1-20:28). A question to ask is why they had to go through those losses for a victory that was ultimately assured (Jgs 20:28).

God makes us go through a longer route for a good reason (Exo 13:17-18). Our time machine's called "*Faith*" (Heb 11:1). It's what allows us to see the future. If Sarai saw the future, she would never have given her maid to Abram. Thankfully, God was merciful and the promised child, Isaac was born. So, at times, even when we give up, God can still do as he's promised. That's because he's the only one who can.

What is the state of your walk with God? Are you happy or frustrated? Are you enjoying the very best God has to offer you? Are you still walking through the doors he's opened for you or have you shut them? Are seeking alternatives? Have you given up? Retrace your steps today and go back to that God-given dream. Pray and reimagine those dreams. Like Hannah, take a walk of faith into the future (1 Sam 1:18).

#### **Bottom line:**

We must start seeing through the eyes of faith and never give up. Do not be hasty to shut doors in your life or give up on your God-given dreams. When God opens a door, it won't shut until you walk through it.

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