## 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 I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies [dedicating all of yourselves, set apart] as a living sacrifice, holy and well-pleasing to God, which is your rational (logical, intelligent) act of worship.

Romans 12:1 (AMP)

#### 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.



# GIVE GOD THE BEST NOT JUST WHAT'S LEFT!

Sunday 15 December 2024
WELCOME

Redeemed Christian Church of God

Bothacl

# **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 (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**

- 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 best of us

Text: Genesis 22:1-2

Abraham's story built up to this moment. He's lived for almost a century and God brought him through many challenges, seemingly towards God's ultimate demand. Abraham's obedience led to a thrilling declaration from God (Gen 22:12-18). He was a given generational blessing, extended to his descendants and all the earth. In the time of famine, Isaac prospered (Gen 26:12-14). Jacob too prospered in the house of Laban (Gen 30:25-34).

We're inheritors of these blessings too (Gal 3:29) and Jesus was part of it. It cannot be revoked or nullified (Num 23:8). God gives us his best and expects our best in return (Jn 3:16). Each time we yield to God, it is noticed (Mk 12:42-44) and we create opportunities for God to do the extraordinary in our lives. Zacchaeus took unusual steps to see Jesus and he was rewarded (Luke 19:1-10). So was the woman with the issue of blood (Lk 8:43-48).

It may seem like Christianity's transactional, but God can also overlook our wrong steps to bless us anyway. That's why Jacob received blessings he didn't earn (Gen 28:10-15). Contrast with his transactional bargaining with God later, forgetting God already made promises to him (Gen 28:16-22). God takes care of his own. We don't need to bargain with him (Matt 6:26). However, things we do and our obedience can invoke more blessings (Rom 8:32).

Why was it easier for the woman to give her two mites than the rich young ruler to give all (Mk 12:42-44; Matt 19:16-22)? We may never know, but something must've compelled the woman. Jesus derided the Scribes and Pharisees for their transactional mindset towards God (Mk 12:38-40). It is why they saw Jesus as a threat. Do we sometimes behave like the Scribes and the Pharisees? We can be sure that when we catch the attention of heaven, our lives will never remain the same.

#### **Bottom line:**

Something compelled Abraham's total obedience. What will inspire us to give our very best to God just because we love him? As a new year draw closer, let us reflect on this, especially if we want to invoke extraordinary blessings from God in the coming days and months.

RCCG Bethel Parish

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