

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

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here."

John 18:36 (NKJV)

THEME FOR THE YEAR

Year of opportunities

John 4:35-38 AMP

"For in this case the saying is true, 'One [person] sows and another reaps.'" ~ *John 4:37 (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.

Living in the kingdom of
God is a matter of living with
God's action in our lives.

Dallas Willard

quote fancy

Image source(s): <https://quote fancy.com/quote/1919157/Dallas-Willard-Living-in-the-kingdom-of-God-is-a-matter-of-living-with-God-s-action-in>



Sunday 13 April 2025

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

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Our 'must-visit' website



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THIS IS RCCG BETHEL PARISH, DUE TO THE CURRENT EPIDEMIC. SERVICES WILL REMAIN ONLINE TILL FURTHER NOTICE

[PLEASE FOLLOW THIS LINK](#)

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

Kingdom living

Text: Isaiah 9:3-7

It is once said that the characteristics of a kingdom derives from the character of the king or ruler. That suggests the kingdom of God is identified by the character of God. As subjects of a kingdom, our character should also be a reflection of that kingdom. Therefore, what character are we expected to express as members of God's kingdom? How should we act or behave? What should we stand for?

Some of the names and characteristics of the son of God are listed in today's text. One says Christ will break the yoke of slavery (Isa 9:4). Slavery is one of the worst things that can happen to a human being. Slaves don't own anything. They live and exist to serve their master within imposed limitations to what they can achieve and it's also not just physical. Some are enslaved by poverty. Others may also be enslaved by sin (Rom 6:16).

Our lifestyles are contradictory to our claims to be Christians when enslaved by sin (2 Pet 2:19-29; see also Psa 51:18=25). Slavery controls our thoughts and emotions. Paul said our battles must be fought in the first instance within our minds and thoughts (2 Cor 10:4-6; Rom 6:8-13). Until we do, we remain trapped, controlled by sin (Rom 12:1-2). That's why Jesus prayed we're sanctified by the truth of the word of God (Jn 17:17) and spent majority of his ministry in teaching, challenging orthodoxy and their concepts (e.g. Matt 5:1-7:29).

The rest of Romans 12 talks about service to God. However, we can only offer acceptable service when our minds are renewed. Many have their minds programmed to fail. If you've been told so many times you will never amount to anything, eventually you begin to believe it. When we become enslaved in our minds, we begin to live the reality of our beliefs. It is crucial we break free of them all and see ourselves as God sees us (Col 1:13).

There's a better way. A better kingdom. A better king. To live in the kingdom of God and enjoy its benefits, our mindset must change. They must be renewed so we begin to see the possibilities (Mk 9:23). That's what prayers can do for us, changing our mindset until we believe the impossible is possible. This is not about mind control or will power. We have the ability to say 'no' by the grace of God that brings salvation to us (Tit 2:11; 1 Cor 9:27).

Some on the autism spectrum are classed as neuro-diverse because they think and see things differently than others. Christians should be neuro-diverse in character and in thoughts, word or deed (Isa 8:12). We turn the world upside down and challenge orthodoxy (Acts 17:5-6). We change people's thinking and see possibilities where there's a void (Psa 119:18; Matt 19:26). That's the character of God's kingdom. Then we're truly free.

Bottom line:

Has the enemy sown tares in our minds (Matt 13:24-30)? When enslaved by sin, we're not reflecting the character God's kingdom (1 Jn 3:9). We must change our mindset and take control of our thoughts until we reflect the character of our Father in heaven (Matt 5:48).

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