

#### 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 you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged. And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.

1 Corinthians 14:31-32 (NKJV)

#### THEME FOR THE YEAR

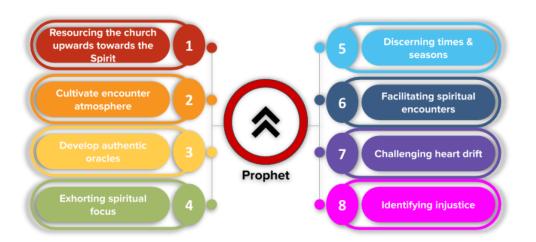
# Year of opportunities John 4:35-38 AMP

"For in this case the saying is true, 'One [person] sows and another reaps." ~ **John 4:3**7 (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.

## **Role of The Prophet**





#### SUNDAY

Thanksgiving / Worship service From 10am

## FRIDAY

Prayer meeting / Bible study
From 7pm

### RCCG Bethel Parish

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### Our 'must-visit' website

Home Our Focus About us Contact Us Sermons Privacy Policy



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 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 role of prophesy in the church today

Text: 1 Corinthians 14:1-3

Prophesying doesn't seem to be actively practised in churches today, perhaps because services are structured or some feel threatened by it. Why is that, if we believe they're messages from God and God is still speaking? Prophesy is a spiritual gift to edify, exhort and comfort the Church (1 Cor 14:3), but we need to give room for this to occur (Act `13:1-6).

Prophesy may be a timely message to challenge or encourage or speak to specific occurrences at certain points as necessary. We may or may not see its fulfilment. The important thing is that the move of the Holy Spirit's given free rein to operate. Sometimes we ignore the Holy Spirit's prompting, but we must also be careful to avoid those who give prophesy on demand because they may be speaking from their own ideas (Jer 23:36 – NLT).

Prophesy is a gift from the Holy Spirit, for the church (1 Cor 12:1-11) and Prophets are sometimes known as oracles of God. They speak by inspiration from God (2 Pet 1:20-21). But you can't speak for God unless you spend time in his presence (Acts 13:1-3). We prophesy when God speaks to us (Eze 22:27-28). We don't speak from our minds or experiences.

It may be messy or judged unseemly by some (2 Sam 6:14-23). It can be fore-telling or forth-telling (1 Kgs 17:1; Acts 21:10-11) and Prophets can be dramatic and / or mavericks in their time (e.g. Elijah, Elisha etc). The office of the prophet can be challenging and few seek it. If bestowed, we must be careful not to be turned into soothsayers by men.

There are riches in the word of God and it's available to everyone, to guide us along the way. In fact, Paul said prophesy is for the unbeliever, so they can see and be convinced / convicted (1 Cor 14:22-25). So, why do we run after prophesy when we have the mind of Christ (1 Cor 2:16). A word of warning: If prophesy is fulfilled, it doesn't mean it's from God (Deut 13:1-4). We can all prophesy, but we must test all prophesies (1 Thes 5:20-21).

#### **Bottom line:**

There are still prophesies today because God has never stopped speaking. However, only those that are attuned to him hear him and only a select few can dedicate themselves to be God's mouthpiece.

## RCCG Bethel Parish

The pillar of truth, defining the future today