

*** GIVE THANKS ***

Thanksgiving Service

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

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

John 14:27 (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.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

Gracious Lord, in times of uncertainty and fear, I seek your peace that transcends circumstances. Help me trust in your plan and find security in your promises. Quiet my anxious thoughts and fill my heart with your peace that guards my mind and soul. I surrender my worries to you, knowing that you are in control. In Jesus' name, I pray.
Amen.

Image source(s): <https://www.christianity.com/wiki/prayer/how-to-pray-for-peace-prayers-for-peace-and-serenity.html>



Sunday 3 August 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

Unit 13, Skylines Village

Limeharbour, London E14 9TS

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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 (<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

How can we pursue peace without compromising our own safety, beliefs or identity?

Text: Matthew 5:9

The first point to make is that safety, beliefs and identity are not considerations addressed in bible texts, in relation to the pursuit of peace. In fact, **Matthew 5:39** suggests we invite more violations on our persons instead. It is however recognised that we may have very little control in the matter (Rom 12:17-21).

The necessity for self-defence is also recognised. However, that shouldn't be at the exclusion of seeking to break through resistance to peace. Thus, pursuing peace may require sacrificing not just our own comfort, but ego too. Accepting compromises could be difficult or humiliating. We do it because God asks us to.

Prioritising peace could also save us a lot of trouble down the line, as recognised in the scriptures (Exo 22:2-3). Anger could lead to lasting harm, with unpredictable consequences (Eph 4:26-27). In general and, the onus is on each of us as Christians to keep the peace, even when under threat (**Rom 12:17**). In the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus led by example (Matthew 26:51-54).

The second point to make is that consideration for safety, beliefs and identity may be an indication of the strength of our faith / trust in God. The scriptures said it's in God we live, move and have our being (Acts 17:26-28). We are never alone. God is with us (Isa 41:10) and his plan for us include pursuing peace at all times.

We may have noticed that, starting with the 10 commandments, seven of which is devoted to our relationships with each other (Exo 20:3-17). Jesus raised the stakes, charging us to love our enemies too and pray for those who spitefully use and persecute us (Matt 5:44; see also Pro 25:21-22).

Bottom line:

So, even in our pursuit of peace, we surrender to God's will in obedience and let him take care of the rest, making that a way of life, in truth. It is part of seeking the kingdom of God first and he will reward us (Matt 6:33; Heb 6:10).

RCCG Bethel Parish

The pillar of truth, defining the future today