

*** 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

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6 (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.

love one another

If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, **BUT HAVE NOT LOVE**, I am become sounding brass, or a clanging cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, **BUT HAVE NOT LOVE**, I am nothing. And if I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and if I give my body to be burned, **BUT HAVE NOT LOVE**, it profiteth me nothing.

[1Cor. 13:1-3]

Image source(s): <https://www.godculture.global/responding-to-political-violence-a-guide-for-christians/> / <https://churchofchristborger.com/tag/unity-2/>



Sunday 7 December 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

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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 (<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 should Christians react to violence?

Text: 1 Samuel 30:8

The keyword in today's discussion topic makes it interesting. Reaction to anything could be subjective and a grey area, ranging from no action at all to measured violence, and sometimes it could be excessive or disproportional. When it comes to returning violence for violence, a good starting place for Christians could be asking what Jesus would do.

He endured derision, humiliation and beating etc., all the way to the cross, without ever making an attempt at retaliation. Instead, as he was dying, he prayed for his accusers / enemies (Lk 23:34). One reason he told Pilate was that his kingdom isn't "**of this world**" (Jn 18:35-36), although he did have something to say on having weapons (Lk 22:36-38). As he explained to his disciples, this was to fulfil the scriptures about him (Isa 53:12). Some have suggested it's just a symbolic warning of the persecution they would face.

Whatever we believe, it's not an indication that Jesus supported violence, later chiding the disciple who drew his sword during his arrest (Lk 22:49-51; Matt 26:51-51). So, how do we calibrate our reaction to violence? Suggestions have ranged from pacifism to passive aggression. While the former ignores the visceral emotions when there's injustice against us, the latter is unlikely to result in positive resolution.

However, we're asked to resist evil (Matt 5:39) and sometimes, we may have no choice in the matter (Rom 12:18-19). During his sermon on the mount, Jesus gave us some guiding principle we can learn from (Matt 5:38-40). Hitting back when someone strikes us on the cheek may exert our honour / authority, but does it glorify God? More than likely, it could lead to an escalation, rancour or lasting enmity.

On the other hand, showing magnanimity in response to being slapped or sued could have a greater impact on our opponents. As Jesus's disciples, we've chosen the path of love, for our neighbours (Mk 12:31), and even our enemies (Matt 5:43-45). We're encouraged to offer forgiveness instead of violence (Matt 18:21-22) and we've been given grace in abundance to help us as we remain zealous for good works (Tit 2:12).

Bottom line:

Lashing out in anger or exerting revenge may feel good in the moment, but does it give the devil a foothold (Eph 4:26-27)? While resistance could be a necessary response at times, the ultimate goal in all things should be to avoid anything that will not glorify God.

RCCG Bethel Parish

The pillar of truth, defining the future today