

Welcome to Church!

We are glad you chose to join us today to worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We hope that your stay has been both meaningful and memorable.

Here are some activities going on with us!

☐ Happy Father's Day!

Today, we honor and celebrate all the dads, grandfathers, and father figures who lead with love, faith, and strength. Your dedication, prayers, and quiet sacrifices are a reflection of our Heavenly Father's heart. May you feel deeply appreciated and blessed this day.

☐ Congregational Prayer & Fasting

This year's second church-wide **Prayer and Fasting** will be on **June 30 to July 4, 2025**, each evening at **7:00 PM**. This is a special opportunity to seek God together through worship, the Word, and united prayer.

We will draw from the book of Colossians with the theme **"Christ Above All: Praying from a Place of Fullness."** Let's come expectant for personal renewal and a fresh move of God in our church, our community, and our nation!

☐ Free Blood Pressure & Sugar Check-up

Encouraging those who wish to monitor their **Blood Pressure & Blood Sugar** levels to avail of our free check-up, happening **every after Sunday service!**

☐ How can we pray for you?

It is a privilege to pray for you! You may send your **prayer requests** and **praise reports** by text (0912 130 6148), by writing them on the prayer cards provided, or by sending us a private message on our Facebook page.

☐ Discover life with our Small Groups.

Looking for deeper connections and a closer walk with God? Our **small groups** are where we cultivate meaningful relationships and grow in faith together. Want to join? Visit our Information Booth after the service to find the perfect group for you!

☐ Stay for fellowship and refreshments.

Stick around after the service for **coffee** and **connection!** It's the perfect chance to meet some friendly faces, learn more about our small groups, our ministries, and discover all that our church has to offer. We'd love to see you there!

Schedules for Services:

English Service:

Morning 10:00 AM

Afternoon 01:00 PM

Cebuano Service:

Afternoon 04:00 PM

2nd Floor,
Northgate Center.
across Gaisano Country Mall
Banilad, Cebu City.

ways to give TITHES and LOVE GIFTS

BPI Checking
Acct no: 0421-0041-16

Paypal
@livingwordnra

GCash Account
0912-130-6148

EMAIL ADDRESS
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FACEBOOK PAGE
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TEXT ONLY NUMBER
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**GET IN TOUCH
WITH US!**

Living Word NRA
Worship God. Advance His Kingdom.

TOO CLOSE TO SEE

Expanding The Misson: The Kingdom Unfolds (Series)
Pastor Nic Sy | June 15, 2025 | Mark 6:1-6

SERMON NOTES

I. WHEN THE FAMILIAR BLINDS US

Sometimes what we think we know about God becomes the biggest obstacle to actually knowing God.

God's greatest work often comes packaged in the most ordinary wrapping.

The danger of spiritual expertise is that we can become too smart to be surprised by God.

We can become so familiar with the forms of faith that we lose touch with the power of faith.

II. WHEN ASSUMPTIONS/UNBELIEF CLOSES THE DOOR

God's unlimited power operates through our limited faith.

God's healing and blessing are always acts of grace, not rewards for perfect faith.

Faith creates space for God to work; unbelief shrinks that space.

III. WHEN RESISTANCE REPLACES FAITH

Our faith or lack of faith has the power to move the heart of God himself.

Privilege brings responsibility, and proximity to truth increases accountability.

Exposure to truth without response to truth leads to hardness of heart.

The danger of spiritual privilege is that we can become professional Christians without being authentic disciples.



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of June 16–22, 2025

“TOO CLOSE TO SEE”

Getting Started

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

What’s something you’ve done for so long that it feels totally normal yet other people still find surprising?

Group Discussion

Read Mark 6:1-6

1. What specific details does Mark include about Jesus’ reception in Nazareth, and what do these reveal about the townspeople’s expectations? How does their familiarity with Jesus’ family background seem to influence their response to his teaching? What does this suggest about how well we think we know the people closest to us?

2. Mark tells us that Jesus “could do no mighty work there” because of their unbelief. What does this teach us about the relationship between faith and experiencing God’s power? How do you reconcile God’s sovereignty with this seeming limitation caused by human unbelief? What might this mean for our own spiritual lives and communities?

3. Sometimes we assume that because we grew up in church or know Bible stories, we have faith – but Jesus seemed to look for more. Read Revelation 3:17–20. What kinds of spiritual assumptions does Jesus confront in this passage? How can we test whether we’re truly living by faith – or just presuming that we are?

4. What does it mean that Jesus was amazed by their unbelief? How does unbelief in the face of clear evidence differ from honest doubt or questioning? Why is unbelief so dangerous?

5. Despite the rejection, Jesus still healed a few people and continued teaching in surrounding villages. What does this reveal about Jesus’ character and mission? What does this teach us about how to handle skepticism or rejection when we share the faith to others? What encouragement can we draw from Jesus?

6. Why do you think it’s often hardest for people to recognize spiritual change or authority in someone they’ve known for a long time? What dangers exist when we stop honoring the people closest to us, especially those who are quietly following Jesus?

7. (Optional) In Luke 4:16–30, the rejection of Jesus in Nazareth goes even further – they become hostile and try to kill him. Why do you think the crowd reacted so strongly to Jesus’ words? What deeper heart issues might have been exposed? How do we sometimes resist or push away truths that challenge us?

Next Steps

Our faith or lack of faith has the power to move the heart of God himself.

- I will ask Jesus to expose wherever I have become too familiar with him.
- I will live by faith and not presumption.
- I will restore honor in my relationships.
- I will learn from Jesus in how to respond to rejection and skepticism.
- I will value the ordinary and overlooked.

Closing the Session

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for spiritual eyes to see Jesus for who he is – whether in the ordinary or in the spectacular.
- Pray for relationships to grow with other Christ-followers, that you will encourage and care for one another.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends, and loved ones.
- Pray for protection, provision, healing and comfort for everyone who’s going through physical, emotional, mental and spiritual pain.

BIBLE READING GUIDE

June 16	Mark 6:1-6
June 17	Jeremiah 1:4-10
June 18	John 7:1-9
June 19	Luke 9:1-6
June 20	James 3:13-18
June 21	Psalms 64:1-10
June 22	Ecclesiastes 4:9-12