

# 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!

## ☐ Newcomers Orientation

Are you new to our church or interested in learning more about who we are and what we do? Join us for our Newcomer's Orientation on **August 16** at **7PM**.

Come and hear about our mission, ministries, and ways you can get connected. Whether you're just visiting or considering making this your church home, we'd love to get to know you! Refreshments will be provided.

## ☐ 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  
livingwordnra@gmail.com

FACEBOOK PAGE  
facebook.com/lwnra

WEBSITE  
www.livingwordnra.com

OFFICE TELEPHONE  
(032) 517 5991

TEXT ONLY NUMBER  
(63) 912 130 6148

**GET IN TOUCH  
WITH US!**

Living Word NRA  
Worship God. Advance His Kingdom.

## WHEN JESUS LOOKS AT THE HEART

Bread & Blindness: Do You See Who He Is? (Mark Series)

Pastor Nic Sy | July 27, 2025 | Mark 7:1-23

### SERMON NOTES

*Looking good is not the same as being changed.*

*God is not looking at your feed, he's looking at your heart.*

### I. THE FOCUS OF RELIGION - WHAT PEOPLE SEE.

*Looking faithful is not the same as being faithful.*

*Just because your life looks holy doesn't mean your heart is holy.*

*God isn't impressed by your highlight reel, he's invested in your heart reality.*

### II. THE FAILURE OF THE HEART - WHAT GOD SEES.

*The danger of hypocrisy isn't in putting on a show but in thinking the show is enough.*

*We are all hypocrites. The difference between a hypocrite and a believer is that one uses the mask to deceive others, and the other asks God to remove it.*

### III. THE FIX OF THE GOSPEL - WHAT JESUS GIVES.

*Jesus didn't come to clean the outside, he came to cleanse the inside.*

*Jesus - the only One who was ever truly clean - willingly became defiled to make us clean.*



**SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE**  
For the week of July 28–August 3, 2025  
“WHEN JESUS LOOKS AT THE HEART”

## 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.

If social media disappeared tomorrow, what would you miss the most, and what might you *not* miss?

## Group Discussion

**Read Mark 7:1-23.**

1. What were the Pharisees so upset about in Mark 7:1–5? Why did they believe the disciples were doing something wrong? How does understanding the tradition of ceremonial washing help us see where they were coming from? Is tradition inherently wrong?
2. What are some examples of religious or church traditions today that, while not bad in themselves, can sometimes overshadow the heart of worship or obedience? How can we tell when a tradition is helping our faith versus hindering it? Have you ever had to “unlearn” a tradition in order to follow God more faithfully? What helped you make that shift?
3. What does it mean to honor God with lips but have a heart far from him? How is this hypocrisy? How does that help you understand what Jesus is really confronting? Can you think of modern examples where people honor God with their words but not their actions? How do you recognize that in yourself?
4. What was “Corban” and how did it allow people to bypass the commandment to “Honor your father and mother”? Can you think of any ways in our modern context, even within Christian circles, where “spiritual” activities or human preferences might inadvertently lead us to neglect clear biblical responsibilities?

5. Jesus makes a statement about defilement in Mark 7:14–16, then explains it further to his disciples (verses 17–23). Why was this considered a radical shift from the common thinking of the day? In what ways can performance replace authenticity in *your* walk with God?

6. Jesus lists several sins that come “from within” in verses 21–23. Read through that list slowly. Which of those do you think are most commonly overlooked or minimized in today’s culture, or even in the church? Why do you think it’s so easy to focus on managing external behaviors instead of addressing internal brokenness?

7. Read 1 Samuel 16:7 and Ezekiel 36:26. How do these verses reinforce the message of Mark 7? What does it look like for someone to receive a “new heart” from God? How would you describe the difference between outward religiosity and inner transformation in *your* own life?

## Next Steps

*God is not looking at your feed, he’s looking at your heart.*

- I will confess ways that I’ve been performing instead of pursuing Jesus personally.
- I will focus on heart transformation, not just habit formation.
- I will prioritize God’s Word and not human tradition.
- I will surrender my heart to Jesus.

## Closing the Session

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

- Pray for a heart that flows out of a love for God, not with masks, but with authenticity.
- 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

July 28	<b>Mark 7:1-23</b>
July 29	<b>1 Samuel 16:1-13</b>
July 30	<b>Proverbs 4:23-27</b>
July 31	<b>Romans 2:25-29</b>
August 1	<b>Titus 3:3-7</b>
August 2	<b>Matthew 6:16-18</b>
August 3	<b>Psalms 70:1-5</b>