

# 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 GRACE CROSSES THE LINE

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

Pastor Nic Sy | August 3, 2025 | Mark 7:24-30

### SERMON NOTES

*Grace doesn't stop at the line.*

Let's walk through this story in three movements...

### I. THE DISCIPLES DRAW THE LINE

*We don't set up barriers to keep people out; we set them up to keep ourselves in.*

*The moment we start deciding who's worthy of God's grace, we've forgotten how we got in ourselves.*

*The mission isn't threatened by messy people; it was made for them.*

### II. THE WOMAN APPROACHES THE LINE

*Desperation doesn't care about borders.*

*Jesus wasn't shutting her down, he was drawing her out.*

*She didn't demand a seat at the table, she just asked that the crumbs fall her way.*

### III. JESUS CROSSES THE LINE

*If Jesus was willing to cross the line, why wouldn't we?*

*Grace doesn't stop at the line because love has already crossed it.*



**SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE**  
For the week of August 4–10, 2025  
“WHEN GRACE CROSSES THE LINE”

## 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 you could cross any border just to experience something new, where would you go and why?

## Group Discussion

**Read Mark 7:24–30 and Matthew 15:21–28.**

1. After reading Matthew and Mark’s versions, how would you describe the woman’s approach to Jesus? What details stand out in her posture, words, and persistence? How are the two gospel accounts similar and how are they different? What do these differences teach us about each Gospel’s emphasis?
2. Do you think Jesus was initially reluctant to help her? What emotions or thoughts might this woman have felt when she was told, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs” (Matt. 15:26, NIV84)? How do we reconcile this seeming harshness with Jesus’ character of love and compassion?
3. The woman refers to Jesus with the Messianic title, “Lord, Son of David.” What does that tell us about her understanding of who Jesus is, even though she’s a Gentile and not part of Israel? How does her faith compare to the faith of the Jewish leaders we’ve seen in recent passages, like in Mark 7:1–23?
4. Think about the woman’s response (Mark 7:28; Matthew 15:27) What makes her reply so powerful? How does she accept Jesus’ words while still appealing for mercy? Have you ever had to approach someone in authority with both humility and boldness at the same time? What does her posture teach us about how to bring our needs to God, especially when we feel unworthy or far from him?

5. What does this encounter reveal about the scope of God’s grace and the expanding boundaries of his Kingdom? How does this connect with other passages where “outsiders” receive surprising favor from Jesus (e.g., the Roman centurion in Luke 7:1–10 or the Samaritan woman in John 4)? What do these stories tell us about the kind of faith that moves Jesus?

6. Jesus commends the woman’s faith as “great,” the same word used to describe the centurion’s faith in Matthew 8. What specific qualities do you think made her faith stand out? When you face closed doors or delayed answers in your own prayers, what can you learn from her example? How does her story encourage you to approach God with both boldness and humility?

7. Reflecting on the sermon, what are some of the “velvet ropes” or unspoken barriers we might see in our community, or even in our own lives? What is one specific personal barrier you believe God is challenging you to tear down, whether it’s related to pride, shame, or judgment?

## Next Steps

*Grace doesn’t stop at the line because love has already crossed it.*

- I will examine the “lines” and “barriers” that I’ve drawn.
- I will pray with humble persistence.
- I will intentionally connect with someone different from me.
- I will examine my faith response especially when God is silent or when my prayers aren’t answered the way I want.

## 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 never loses the wonder of God’s grace.
- 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

August 4	<b>Mark 7:24-30</b>
August 5	<b>Joshua 2:8-14</b>
August 6	<b>Psalms 13:1-6</b>
August 7	<b>Acts 10:24-35</b>
August 8	<b>Revelations 7:9-12</b>
August 9	<b>Psalms 71:1-13</b>
August 10	<b>Psalms 71:14-24</b>