

# 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 TAKES THE TIME

Bread & Blindness: Do You See Who He Is? (Mark Series)  
Pastor Nic Sy | August 10, 2025 | Mark 7:31-37

### SERMON NOTES

*The God who holds the universe... holds your hand.*

#### I. PURPOSEFUL: JESUS TAKES THE LONG WAY

*The God who holds the universe... goes out of his way.*

*In his kingdom, love doesn't calculate on cost-effectiveness. Grace doesn't run on efficiency reports.*

#### II. PERSONAL: JESUS GETS UP CLOSE

*Jesus didn't just want to heal the man. He wanted the man to feel loved.*

*The God who holds the universe... understands your struggle.*

#### III. PERFECT: JESUS DOES EVERYTHING RIGHT

*The God who holds the universe... does all things well.*

*"God is never arbitrary. He does nothing without a reason, and his reasons are always rooted in his infinite wisdom and holiness." (A.W. Tozer)*



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of August 11-17, 2025

### "WHEN JESUS TAKES THE TIME"

## 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 had to live without one of your senses for a week (sight, hearing, taste, smell, touch), which would you pick and why? (Bonus: How would that affect your prayer life?)

## Group Discussion

**Read Mark 7:31-37.**

1. What do you notice about the geographical details in verse 31, and why might Mark have included Jesus' specific route through the Decapolis? How does this setting connect to Jesus' earlier ministry in this Gentile region (Mark 5:1-20), and what does this suggest about the scope of Jesus' mission and the spread of the gospel?

2. Why might Jesus take him aside privately? What might be the significance of the gestures (fingers in ears, spit, and touch)? How do these details help us understand the kind of healing Jesus offers – not just physical, but emotional and relational? Can you share a time when you felt God met you in a deeply personal way?

3. The man in this story was likely marginalized because of his disability. Yet Jesus doesn't just heal him publicly but pulls him aside privately, honoring him with dignity. When have you felt overlooked or misunderstood because of something about you? How does it change your view of God to know he sees you, values you, and meets you personally?

4. Jesus didn't rush this healing. He took time, touched, sighed, and spoke personally. In our fast-paced world, how can we learn to slow down and trust that God is at work, even when we don't see immediate results? What helps you stay focused on God when you're waiting?

5. The crowd says in verse 37, *"He has done all things well."* That phrase echoes Genesis 1:31, where God looks at creation and says it is *"very good."* How does this healing preview not just a miracle, but a restoration of God's original design?

6. The people were *"astonished beyond measure"* (v.37). Share a time when you were truly amazed by God – either in Scripture, in someone's story, or in your own life? What made it so powerful? How can we grow in recognizing and responding to God's work with wonder instead of just routine?

7. Consider the phrase: *"The God who holds the universe... holds your hand."* Where in your current season do you need to remember that truth? Is there a situation that feels too small for God to care about? Or one that feels too big for him to fix? How does this passage challenge those assumptions?

## Next Steps

*The God who holds the universe... holds your hand.*

- I will trust Jesus with the details of my life.
- I will make an effort to "take the long way" for someone.
- I will wait patiently and actively.
- I will practice intentional listening in my relationships.
- I will show empathy to those who are struggling.

## Closing the Session

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

- Pray for sensitivity to see God's hand and a thankful heart that testifies to God's work in your life.
- 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 11	<b>Mark 7:31-37</b>
August 12	<b>Luke 18:35-43</b>
August 13	<b>Psalms 146:5-10</b>
August 14	<b>Romans 8:26-30</b>
August 15	<b>Genesis 16:7-13</b>
August 16	<b>Psalms 72:1-20</b>
August 17	<b>Psalms 147:4-5</b>