

# 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!

## ☐ 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.

## COUNTING ON JESUS

Bread & Blindness: Do You See Who He Is? (Mark Series)  
Pastor Nic Sy | August 17, 2025 | Mark 8:1-21

### SERMON NOTES

*When you forget what God has done, you miss what God is doing.*

*Don't count loaves. Count on Jesus.*

### I. REMEMBER WHAT GOD HAS DONE.

*We keep relearning the same lesson because we keep forgetting the evidence.*

### II. BEWARE WHAT CAN DISTORT YOUR FAITH

*Faith isn't about seeing enough evidence, it's about responding to the evidence you already have.*

*The leaven of the Pharisees says, "I will follow God... as long as he meets my standards."*

*The leaven of Herod says, "I will follow God... as long as he fits into my lifestyle."*

*Sometimes the biggest threat to your faith isn't a lack of bread, it's the wrong yeast in your bread.*

### III. TRUST WHO IS IN THE BOAT WITH YOU

*We keep counting loaves because we've forgotten who's in the boat.*

*When Jesus is in the boat, (even) one loaf is enough.*



We are a church that seeks to bring glory to God, to build the local church through discipleship and to fulfill the Great Commission.

**OUR MISSION**

**SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE**  
For the week of August 18–24, 2025  
“COUNTING ON JESUS”

## 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.

When you get hungry, do you get quiet, cranky or creative? Share an experience with the group.

## Group Discussion

### Read Mark 8:1-21

1. Read Mark 6:30–44 alongside Mark 8:1–10. What similarities do you notice between these two feeding miracles? What does it tell us about Jesus that he performed essentially the same miracle twice? Why do you think Mark included both stories in his Gospel rather than just one?

2. In Mark 8:4, the disciples ask, “How can anyone feed these people with bread here in this desolate place?” How does this question echo their previous interaction with Jesus in the feeding of the 5,000? What might be some reasons the disciples forgot so quickly, and what does this reveal about our own tendency to forget God’s past faithfulness?

3. In verses 11–13, the Pharisees ask for a sign from heaven. Why do you think Jesus refuses? What does this tell us about the difference between genuine faith and a demand for proof? In your own life, when do you find yourself wanting “more evidence” from God before trusting him?

4. In Mark 8:15, Jesus warns about “the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod.” What specific attitudes or beliefs do you think characterized “Pharisee leaven” versus “Herod leaven”? How do these two types of spiritual “leaven” show up in our culture today? What are some practical ways to identify when these influences are working in your own life?

5. Jesus asks the disciples, “Do you still not understand?” (Mark 8:21). What are some of the key lessons Jesus is trying to teach the disciples through these two miraculous feedings? Looking back on your own life, what is a repeated lesson from God that you are still trying to grasp, and what helps you to better understand it?

6. Think about a time when you felt like you only had “one loaf” (e.g. limited resources, energy, faith, or hope.) How did you respond? Did you find yourself counting loaves or counting on Jesus? What would it look like to “break your loaf” and trust him with what little you had? And what’s one practical way you can choose to trust his presence over your circumstances this week?

7. Read Deuteronomy 8:2, Joshua 4:1–9, and Psalm 103:2–5. How does Scripture connect remembering God’s past actions with present faith? Why do you think we naturally tend to forget what God has done in our lives? How might keeping track of answered prayers change the way you approach current difficulties?

## Next Steps

*Don’t count loaves. Count on Jesus.*

- I will stay focused on Jesus.
- I will practice thankfulness even before the answer comes.
- I will replace worry with Scripture.
- I will practice remembering God’s faithfulness in my life.

## Closing the Session

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

- Pray for a faith that counts on Jesus and not the loaves.
- 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 18 **Mark 8:1-10**  
August 19 **Mark 8:11-13**  
August 20 **Mark 8:14-21**  
August 21 **Hebrews 13:5-8**  
August 22 **2 Corinthians 9:6-11**  
August 23 **Psalms 73:1-16**  
August 24 **Psalms 73:17-28**