

# 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.

## TRUE GREATNESS

The Road to the Cross: Following the Suffering King (Mark Series)  
Elder Jeremy Leones | September 21, 2025 | Mark 9:30-37

### SERMON NOTES

Three truths about greatness:

### 1. True Greatness Begins At The Cross (vv30-31)

*Jesus anchors greatness not in status, but in sacrifice.*

*To follow Jesus' way of greatness, we begin by surrendering our lives fully at the cross not just in words but in daily discipleship.*

### 2. True Greatness Is Found In Serving Others (vv32-35)

*Jesus exemplifies that true greatness is through service in humble obedience to His Father's will.*

*Jesus is calling us to a life of obedience to God and service to others in love.*

*In the kingdom of God, the way up is down, and the greatest is the one who serves.*

### 3. True Greatness Requires Humility (vv36-37)

*Humility is not thinking less of ourselves; it's thinking of ourselves less.*

*The greatest in the kingdom is the one who humbles himself like a child. There is:*

- Openness to learning
- Lack of pride or arrogance
- Trust and dependence
- Sincerity and authenticity

*Only through humility can we come to the cross of Jesus and be rooted in a life of serving others.*



**SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE**  
For the week of September 22–28, 2025  
“TRUE GREATNESS”

## 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 one small, everyday act of service you’ve seen someone do that stuck with you, even though no one else noticed?

## Group Discussion

**Read Mark 9:30–37.**

1. In verses 30–32, Jesus tells the disciples plainly that he will be delivered and killed, yet they did not understand and were afraid to ask him. Why do you think they struggled to grasp this? How do we sometimes avoid facing the hard truths of following Jesus? What does this reveal about our expectations of God?

2. Jesus deliberately avoids attention, teaching his disciples privately about his coming death, yet they are arguing about who is the greatest. How does this contrast reveal the difference between God’s kingdom values and the world’s pursuit of status? What subtle ways do we still compete for recognition in church, family, or friendships, even when we claim to follow Christ?

3. Jesus redefines greatness in verse 35 by saying, “*If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.*” What does that mean practically? What would it look like to live this out in your home, your workplace, or in church life this week?

4. Jesus takes a child, not just as a symbol, but as a person of no social power, and places the child in the center of the conversation. What does this reveal about God’s heart for the overlooked, the voiceless, and the vulnerable? How might we be missing God’s presence in people we’ve dismissed as “unimportant” or “inconvenient”?

5. Think about Matthew 6:1–4, where Jesus tells his disciples to give in secret and that “*your Father who sees in secret will reward you.*” How does this reshape our motivation for serving others? How does it change the way you think about the value of unnoticed acts of kindness?

6. Choosing the last place sometimes means giving up our rights, preferences, or privileges. Where in your life right now do you feel Jesus may be asking you to let go of “being first”? What is one concrete way you can “choose the last place” in the coming week?

7. Jesus didn’t just teach about humility but embodied it by walking toward the cross. How does his willingness to become the “least” give us courage to embrace humility without fear of being taken advantage of? And how does his resurrection assure us that true service is never wasted in God’s economy?

## Next Steps

*In the kingdom of God, the way up is down, and the greatest is the one who serves.*

- **Serve in Secret:** I will do something for someone this week without seeking recognition.
- **Choose Last Place:** I will put someone else’s needs before my own.
- **Value the Overlooked:** I will notice and encourage someone who is often unseen.
- **Listen with Humility:** I will practice humility by listening more than I speak.
- **Faithful Service:** I will measure greatness by faithfulness, not recognition.

## Closing the Session

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

- Pray for opportunities this week to serve in secret, choose last place, value the overlooked, listen with humility and to serve faithfully.
- 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

September 22	<b>Mark 9:30–37</b>
September 23	<b>Proverbs 11:1–4</b>
September 24	<b>Matthew 20:20–28</b>
September 25	<b>Galatians 5:13–26</b>
September 26	<b>Luke 22:24–27</b>
September 27	<b>Psalms 78:1–8</b>
September 28	<b>Psalms 78:9–16</b>