

# 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!

## 2025 Medical Mission

Our annual Medical Mission in partnership with Cebu Doctors' University will be on **November 15, 2025 at 8am to 2pm** at the Northgate Center. We are looking for volunteers: **counselors (gospel sharers), logistics and traffic control**. We will have a **Volunteers' Orientation on November 8, 2025 at 10am**.

## How can we pray for you?

Inviting you to join our **Prayer Meeting, Tuesdays at 7PM**. 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!

## 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!**

## 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  
Banalad, 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.

## THE UPSIDE-DOWN LEADER

The Road to the Cross: Following the Suffering King (Mark Series)  
Pastor Nic Sy | November 2, 2025 | Mark 10:32-45

### SERMON NOTES

*In God's Kingdom, the way up is down.*

#### I. THE LEADER WHO GOES FIRST.

*Leadership in the Kingdom is knowing the cost and walking forward anyway.*

*Leaders in the Kingdom don't wait for perfect conditions; they move in obedience.*

#### II. THE AMBITION THAT MISSES THE POINT.

*It's possible to follow Jesus and still be secretly running a personal campaign.*

*The road to resurrection always passes through Gethsemane.*

*Jesus would drink the cup of the Father's wrath so that you and I would never drink ours alone.*

#### III. THE REDEFINITION OF GREATNESS

*When you serve, you reflect the very heart of the Savior.*

*The greatest person in any room is not the one everyone notices; it's the one quietly serving when no one's looking.*



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 November 3–9, 2025  
“THE UPSIDE-DOWN LEADER”

## 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.

Describe the worst leader you've ever known (no names please, and not from politics!). What one word would summarize that person's leadership style?

## Group Discussion

**Read Mark 10:32-45.**

1. What emotions do you sense in the disciples as they walk toward Jerusalem in verses 32–34? Why do you think Jesus repeats his prediction of suffering so clearly here? How does this moment reveal the gap between what Jesus is focused on and what his followers are hoping for?

2. In verses 35–37, James and John ask Jesus for seats of honor. What do you notice about their request? What kind of “ambition” might have motivated them? How can we tell the difference between a desire that honors God and one that centers on self? What would godly ambition look like in your work, relationships, or ministry?

3. Jesus draws a sharp contrast between the Gentile rulers and his followers. How would you describe the fundamental difference in their definitions of “greatness”? What are the tangible outcomes of a leadership style that “lords it over” people versus one that serves? In what practical areas of life (work, family, church) are you most tempted to adopt the worldly model of authority?

4. Jesus asks James and John, “Are you able to drink the cup that I drink?” (v. 38). In Scripture, “the cup” often symbolizes suffering or God's will (see Psalm 75:8; Matthew 26:39). What might it look like for us today to “drink the cup” in our relationships, workplaces, or communities? Is there a current situation where God might be inviting you to embrace sacrifice rather than seek comfort or control?

5. Verse 41 says the other disciples were “indignant” when they heard James and John's request. Why do you think they were so upset? Have you ever felt frustrated when someone else was recognized or promoted? What does this reveal about the human heart, even among Jesus' followers? How can we guard against comparison in our serving or leading?

6. Jesus doesn't just say, “Serve others so you'll eventually be honored.” He says serving is the path to greatness. How is biblical servanthood different from using humility as a tactic to gain influence? Have you ever caught yourself serving with hidden expectations of praise, reciprocity, or promotion? What helps you serve freely, without strings attached?

7. Verse 45 contains one of the clearest summaries of Jesus' mission. What does the word “ransom” tell us about our condition apart from Christ? And how does Jesus' self-giving love reframe what it means to lead, forgive, or lay down your rights for someone else?

## Next Steps

*In the Kingdom of God, the way up is down.*

- **Check Your Ambition:** I will regularly examine my motives.
- **Seek to Serve, Not to Be Served:** I will actively look for opportunities to help others, even when no one is watching.
- **Value the Towel, Not Just the Title:** I will find joy and purpose in humble service, not just public recognition.
- **Lead from the Cross:** I will let Jesus' sacrificial love be my model and motivation for everything you do..

## Closing the Session

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

- Pray for genuine and passionate desire to serve the way Jesus served.
- 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

November 3	<b>Mark 10:32-45</b>
November 4	<b>Romans 12:9-21</b>
November 5	<b>Matthew 23:8-12</b>
November 6	<b>Nehemiah 5:14-19</b>
November 7	<b>Titus 2:11-14</b>
November 8	<b>Psalms 81:1-16</b>
November 9	<b>2 Peter 5:1-9</b>

