

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!

☐ 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
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
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WEBSITE
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TEXT ONLY NUMBER
(63) 912 130 6148

**GET IN TOUCH
WITH US!**

Living Word NRA
Worship God. Advance His Kingdom.

THE VINEYARD, THE TENANTS AND THE SON

The Jerusalem Ministry: The King Confronts Empty Religion (series)
Ptr Nic Sy | December 7, 2025 | Mark 12:1-12



SERMON NOTES

Jesus doesn't just confront our control; he calls for the surrender of our hearts.

I. GOD ENTRUSTS, BUT WE TRY TO TAKE OVER

God does not call us to create the vineyard. He calls us to steward what he has already created.

Rebellion doesn't begin with violence. It begins with entitlement.

Where might we be living as if we are the owners?

Whenever we resist God's rightful claim over what he has entrusted, we reveal that entitlement has replaced stewardship.

II. GOD PURSUES, BUT WE OFTEN PUSH BACK

God does not give up easily. His patience outpaces our rebellion.

People don't refuse Jesus for lack of evidence, only for lack of willingness to yield.

Where is God pursuing you and where are you pushing back?

III. GOD TRIUMPHS EVEN WHEN WE RESIST HIM

Human rebellion cannot cancel divine purpose.

What does it mean to make Jesus your cornerstone?

1. He is the foundation you build upon.
2. He is the alignment point; everything lines up with him.
3. He is the stability you stand on.

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 December 8–14, 2025
“THE VINEYARD, THE TENANTS & THE SON”

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.

Have you ever borrowed something and accidentally broke it? What did you do?

Group Discussion

Read Mark 12:1-12.

1. What details stood out to you upon reading the story (Mark 12:1-5)? Why do you think Jesus included such specific imagery like the fence, winepress, and tower? How does knowing the Old Testament background (see Isaiah 5:1-7) deepen your understanding of this parable? In what ways does the parable reveal God’s generosity toward his people?

2. The tenants act as if the vineyard belongs to them. Where do you personally struggle with “ownership” instead of stewardship (whether that’s your time, plans, resources, or relationships)? How does entitlement show in a person’s attitudes or decisions? What helps you remember that everything is entrusted, not owned?

3. The owner sends servant after servant, even after the tenants mistreat them. What does this repeated pursuit reveal about God’s patience and heart toward those who resist him? How does this comfort you personally? Why do you think the tenants escalated their violence instead of repenting? What does this pattern teach us about human nature and our natural response to correction or accountability?

4. When the owner sends his “beloved son,” the tenants react with hostility. What does this reveal about God’s character that he would send his most precious Son after all the servants were rejected? The tenants recognized the son but still killed him. What does this tell us about the difference between knowing who Jesus is and actually submitting to him? Are there areas in your own life where you recognize Jesus’ authority but struggle to actually obey?

5. Jesus warns that the owner will “destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others” (v. 9). How should we hold together God’s grace and his justice when reading this passage? Why is the rejection of Jesus such a grave matter in the biblical storyline? Does this warning apply only to ancient religious leaders, or does it carry implications for people today, including those who claim to follow Christ?

6. Jesus quotes Psalm 118:22-23 about the “stone the builders rejected” becoming the cornerstone. What does a cornerstone represent, and why is that image powerful? How do people today treat Jesus as “optional”? In what practical ways can you make Jesus the aligning foundation of your life? What changes when he becomes the “first stone” rather than an add-on?

7. The religious leaders understood Jesus was speaking against them (v. 12), yet they didn’t repent. Why? What made Jesus’ message so threatening to their authority and worldview? Can you think of a time when you resisted or rejected a message from God because it was uncomfortable or inconvenient? What helped you (or what would help you) become more receptive to God’s voice?

Next Steps

God does not give up easily. His patience outpaces our rebellion.

- **Surrender Fully.** I will remember that everything I have is entrusted by God.
- **Listen Attentively.** I will pay attention to God’s “messages” and respond with obedience instead of delay.
- **Align Completely.** I will build my life on Jesus as my Cornerstone by aligning my values, habits, and plans to him.
- **Draw Closely.** I will embrace the nearness of Jesus by making space for him daily (prayer, reflection, Scripture).

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 makes Jesus as the chief cornerstone of 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

December 8	Mark 12:1-12
December 9	Isaiah 5:1-7
December 10	Genesis 22:1-14
December 11	Psalms 118:19-24
December 12	Psalms 103:8-14
December 13	Psalms 86:1-17
December 14	Luke 1:11-20