

# 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!

## IDMC Conference 2026

**February 20-21, 2026** at the Living Word Convention Center. Regular rate is P2,500. Students, PWD and senior citizens rate is P1,500. For those who have not registered, limited onsite registration is available at 9AM on February 21.

## Leaders Ministry Summit

Calling all ministry leaders, core members and assistants to join the Leaders Summit on **February 22, 2026 (Sun) at 7PM**. Please send ahead a copy of your 2026 Ministry Plan to Ptr. Nic by February 21.

## 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  
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 CENTER OF THE MAP

The Jerusalem Ministry: The King Confronts Empty Religion (series)  
Ptr Nic Sy | February 15, 2026 | Mark 12:28-34

### SERMON NOTES

*When the center is clear, everything else begins to align.*

#### I. MAKE GOD YOUR NON-NEGOTIABLE FIRST

*When God isn't at the center, even good things become misplaced.*

**Reflect:** What currently organizes your life?

#### II. LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS PROOF OF LOVING GOD

*If loving God is the center of the map, loving your neighbor is the road that flows from it.*

*Your neighbor isn't just the person you choose to love. Your neighbor is the person God gives you to love.*

*Love for God is the root. Love for neighbor is the fruit.*

**Reflect:** Who is your neighbor right now?

#### III. STEP FROM UNDERSTANDING TO SURRENDER

*Closeness to the kingdom is not the same as commitment to the King.*

**Reflect:** Where might you be "not far" but not fully in?

*The kingdom isn't entered by knowing the right place, it's entered by trusting the right Person.*



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 February 16–22, 2026  
“THE CENTER OF THE MAP”

## 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.

Who was your elementary school crush, and what did you “like” or “love” about them? (Bonus: How did it work out?)

## Group Discussion

### Read Mark 12:28-34

1. Mark tells us this scribe had been listening to Jesus’ discourses with the other religious leaders and “saw that he had answered them well.” Is this detail significant? What does it tell us about this man’s attitude compared to those who had been trying to trap Jesus? Do you think he was sincere with his question?

2. The *Shema*, quoted by Jesus in verses 29–30, was something every Jewish person recited twice daily. It was a daily recalibration. Read Deuteronomy 6:4–9, the original source of the *Shema* and notice what Moses says about how this command should shape everyday life. Why do you think God intended this to be recited *daily* rather than just believed *once*? Why is the declaration that God is “one” the essential foundation before the command to love?

3. How is the word “love” commonly used today? How might cultural definitions of love (romantic attraction, emotional warmth, affirmation, tolerance, etc.) differ from how Jesus uses the word in Mark 12:30–31? When you hear “love the Lord your God,” what picture comes to your mind? How does our modern definitions of love cause us to misunderstand the greatest commandment?

4. Looking at the four dimensions (i.e. heart, soul, mind, strength), what differences do you see among those terms? Are they separate compartments, or is Jesus emphasizing total devotion? Which of those areas feels easiest for you to give to God right now, and which feels hardest?

5. Read Mark 12:31 and reflect on the phrase “as yourself.” Jesus assumes a healthy foundation of self-love as the model for how we treat others. Yet we can swing to extremes – loving ourselves too much (narcissism, self-absorption) or too little (self-hatred, neglect). What does healthy, God-centered self-love look like, and how is it different from both unhealthy extremes?

6. When Jesus says, “love your neighbor as yourself” (Mark 12:31), who do you instinctively include in that category? Who do you instinctively exclude? How does Luke 10:33–37 (the Parable of the Good Samaritan) stretch or redefine our boundaries? What might it reveal about your heart if certain people immediately feel outside your definition of neighbor?

7. The scribe responds with genuine insight, affirming Jesus’ answer and even adding his own understanding that love is more important than sacrifice. Jesus tells him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God” – close, but not yet inside. What might still be missing? What is the danger of an “almost” faith?

## Next Steps

When the center is clear, everything else begins to align.

- **Love Fully.** I will center my whole life in God.
- **Live Outwardly.** I will love my neighbor as outflow of my love for God.
- **Step In.** I will move from agreement with Jesus to action for Jesus.
- **Stay In.** I will live from the center, day after day.

## Closing the Session

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

- Pray for the grace to love God with everything you are, the courage to love the people around you with everything you have, and the faith to stop standing at the gate and finally step all the way in.
- 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

February 16	<b>Mark 12:28-34</b>
February 17	<b>Deuteronomy 6:4-12</b>
February 18	<b>1 John 3:14-18</b>
February 19	<b>Hosea 6:4-6</b>
February 20	<b>Romans 8:35-39</b>
February 21	<b>Psalms 91:1-16</b>
February 22	<b>Deuteronomy 15:7-8</b>

