

# 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 will be both meaningful and memorable.



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

Here are some activities going on with us!

## **Lenten Retreat 2026**

You are invited to join our **annual Lenten Retreat** to be held during the **Holy Week**. In order to accommodate more people, we will have **two batches**. There is a registration fee of **P3,000.00**.

**Batch 1: March 30-April 1, 2026**

**Batch 2: April 2-4, 2026**

## 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** and **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**!

## **Ways to give tithes and love gifts.**

BPI Checking                    **0421-0041-16**  
Paypal                            **@livingwordnra**  
GCash Account                **0912-130-6148**

## **Sunday Services**

**English** 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM

**Cebuano** 4:00 PM

**2nd Floor,**  
**Northgate Center.**  
across Gaisano Country Mall  
Banilad, Cebu City.

 @lwnra                     livingwordnra@gmail.com                     0912 130 6148 (Text only)  
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**LIVING WORD NRA**  
*Worship God. Advance His Kingdom.*

## **MISSION UNDER PRESSURE**

Until He Comes: The King Prepares A Watchful Church.

Mark 13:9-13  
Ptr. Nic Sy

March 8, 2026

## SERMON NOTES

*What happens when the follower becomes the witness?*

### **I. EXPECT PRESSURE - THE SUMMONS**

*The world's hatred with you will not be about your personality or your preferences. It will be about your allegiance.*

*Persecution doesn't derail the mission; it advances it.*

*What the enemy meant to silence, God uses to speak. The courtroom becomes a pulpit. The trial becomes the testimony.*

**Reflect:** So instead of asking "How do I get out of this pressure?," what if we asked, "Who is watching me go through this?"

### **II. EXPECT HELP - THE SUPPLY**

*The resource God supplies for your hardest moments of witness is not a technique or a formula; it is a Person.*

**Reflect:** Are you making yourself available for the Holy Spirit to work through you?

*Your responsibility is availability; the Spirit's responsibility is ability.*

### **III. EXPECT ENDURANCE - THE STAND**

*When loyalty to Christ conflicts with loyalty to others, Christ must remain first.*

*Those who are genuinely saved will endure.*

*The pressures of life reveal what our hearts are anchored to.*

**Reflect:** So the question Jesus invites us to reflect on is not simply, "Did I start following Christ?" The question is, "Am I continuing with him?"

# “MISSION UNDER PRESSURE

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of March 9-15, 2026

## 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 is the most “intense” or nervous experience you’ve ever had with public speaking? What helped you through it?

## GROUP DISCUSSION

**Read Mark 13:9-13**

1. This passage marks a shift in Jesus’ teaching from the destruction of the Temple to the experiences of his followers. What specific places does Jesus say his followers will be handed over to, and who are the audiences mentioned? Why do you think Jesus mentions both religious settings (councils, synagogues) and political ones (governors, kings)?

2. Jesus says his followers will stand before authorities “as witnesses.” What does the word “witness” suggest about the role of a Christian in the world? How is being a witness different from trying to win arguments or prove people wrong? When have you seen someone represent Christ well through their words or actions? Are there opportunities in your current environment (e.g. workplace, school, family, community, etc.) for you to bear witness to Christ?

3. Verse 10 sits right in the middle of this passage about suffering and conflict. How does this universal mission give purpose and meaning to the personal trials described in the surrounding verses? In what way does our “witness” under pressure, become a part of that gospel proclamation?

4. Jesus tells us in verse 11 not to “worry beforehand” about what to say because the Holy Spirit will provide the words. Does this mean we should stop studying our Bibles altogether and just depend on God? Look at Luke 12:11-12 and Exodus 4:10-12; how has God historically helped his “slow of speech” servants? In practical terms, what does it look like to make yourself “available” for God to work through you?

5. Verse 12 describes painful family division because of allegiance to Christ. How do you think loyalty to Jesus can create tension within families or close relationships? How should Christians respond when their faith is misunderstood or resisted by people they love? What attitudes or behaviors can help maintain grace and humility in those situations?

6. “...he who stands firm to the end will be saved.” Stand firm is the Greek root word *hupomenó* that means “to remain under, to abide.” What do you think it means to “stand firm” or endure in faith? Why is endurance an important part of the Christian life rather than just initial enthusiasm? What kinds of pressures or challenges today can test a person’s faith? Looking at your own life, what helps you continue trusting Christ during difficult seasons?

## NEXT STEPS

*When loyalty to Christ conflicts with loyalty to others, Christ must remain first.*

- **Stay Ready.** I will stay spiritually alert and pay attention to how my faith shapes my daily decisions.
- **Speak Boldly.** I will depend on the Spirit rather than my own ability when speaking about my faith.
- **Stand Firm.** I will “remain under” Christ even when following him becomes difficult.

## 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 stays alert, a life that’s available to the Holy Spirit, and faith that stands firm in bearing witness to Christ.
- 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

March 9	<b>Mark 13:9-13</b>
March 10	<b>Acts 4:18-31</b>
March 11	<b>Luke 12:11-12</b>
March 12	<b>Daniel 3:16-28</b>
March 13	<b>Jeremiah 1:17-19</b>
March 14	<b>Psalms 94:1-23</b>
March 15	<b>1 Timothy 4:1-2</b>

