

# 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!

## **Small Group Leaders & Disciples Forum**

All small group leaders, co-leaders, trainees and disciples are invited to join us tonight **April 26, 2026, 7PM** at our center. This will be a valuable time to align our direction, strengthen our groups, and encourage one another in shepherding well.

Please come ready to engage, share insights, and grow together as we continue building healthy, Christ-centered communities.



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	<b>0421-0041-16</b>
Paypal	<b>@livingwordnra</b>
GCash Account	<b>0912-130-6148</b>

## **Sunday Services**

**English** 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM  
**Cebuano** 4:00 PM

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


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 (032) 517-5991 (Office)



**LIVING WORD NRA**  
*Worship God. Advance His Kingdom.*

## **SPIRIT IS WILLING, FLESH IS WEAK**

The Passion Narrative: From Betrayal to the Cross

Mark 14:27-42  
Ptr. Nic Sy

April 26 2026

## **SERMON NOTES**

### **I. THE PROMISES WE MAKE**

“fall away” | Greek skandalizó | “to trap or to set a snare.”

*Strength without dependence on God is not strength. It is just exposure waiting to happen.*

**Reflect:** Is there an area of your life where you have repeatedly made the same sincere promise and repeatedly broken it? What does that pattern tell you?

### **II. THE PRESSURE WE FACE**

“flesh” | Greek sarx | “the body, human nature”

*The difference between a prepared believer and an unprepared one is not the intensity of their intentions. It is the depth of their prayer life.*

**Reflect:** When you face spiritual pressure is your first instinct to try harder, or to pray?

*The preparation for the moment of pressure happens before the moment arrives. You cannot summon what you have not cultivated.*

### **III. THE PRAYER WE NEED**

*This is what prayer is for: To bring our willing spirit and our weak flesh into the same place, and let the Father hold both of them.*

**Reflect:** Is there something you are trying to face with willpower that you have not yet fully surrendered in prayer?

# “SPIRIT IS WILLING, FLESH IS WEAK”

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of April 27 - May 3, 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.

When you're really tired, what's your go-to way of staying awake (e.g. coffee, exercise, snacks, etc.)? Does it work?

### GROUP DISCUSSION

#### Read Mark 14:27-42

1. In verse 27, Jesus quotes Zechariah 13:7. Take a moment to look up Zechariah 13:7 in its original context. What is the broader picture that passage is describing, and why is it significant that Jesus applies it to himself and his disciples? Knowing that Jesus was intentionally reading Scripture over this moment, what does that tell us about how he understood his own suffering and about how God works even through our failures?

2. In verse 28 Jesus immediately adds, “*But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.*” Why do you think Jesus includes the promise of restoration in the same breath as the prediction of failure? What does it reveal about Jesus’ love toward people he knows are about to let him down and how does that shape the way you understand God’s grace and response to your own failures?

3. Jesus’ prayer begins with the word “*Abba.*” Now read Romans 8:15 and Galatians 4:6, where Paul uses the same word *Abba*. What does this kind of prayer-language signal about our relationship with God? In your own experience, is it easier to pray to the Father asking honestly for what you want or surrendering the outcome?

4. Jesus tells the disciples to “watch and pray.” He gives them this instruction before the crisis arrives, not during. What does that sequence tell us about the relationship between prayer and spiritual preparedness? Is there a specific area of temptation, pressure, or recurring struggle in your life right now where you have been trying to manage it in the moment rather than preparing for it in prayer beforehand? What would it look like to change that?

5. Many people feel uncomfortable with this picture of Jesus as being “*greatly distressed and troubled*” because it does not match the composed, serene image we often carry of him. What does the full humanity of Jesus in Gethsemane mean for how you bring your own fear, grief, or dread to God in prayer? Is there something you have been keeping from God in prayer because it felt too raw, too faithless, or too honest to say out loud?

6. Peter’s declaration in verse 29 is completely sincere, and completely wrong. Looking honestly at your own life, is there an area where your confidence in your own spiritual strength or consistency has actually been functioning as a substitute for genuine dependence on God? What would genuine dependence look like in that area, practically speaking?

### NEXT STEPS

*Prayer is where your willing spirit and your weak flesh finally agree.*

- **Admit Honestly.** I will stop confusing sincerity with dependence on God.
- **Surrender Fully.** I will bring genuine prayer, both the raw and honest part as well as the releasing part, to God.
- **Pray Faithfully.** I will build my prayer life before the crisis hits.
- **Rest Securely.** I will not let failure have the final word, but will rest in the grace that Jesus bestows.

### 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 stop trusting in your own resolve and start depending on your Abba Father, bringing your willing spirit and your weak flesh to him in honest surrender, and resting in the One who has already gone ahead of you.
- 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

April 27 **Mark 14:27-31**  
April 28 **Judges 16:15-22**  
April 29 **Mark 14:32-42**  
April 30 **Hebrews 5:7-9**  
May 1 **Romans 8:14-27**  
May 2 **Psalms 101:1-8**  
May 3 **Romans 8:37-39**

