

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!

The Sacred Ordinary Retreat June 11-13, 2026

In the busyness of life, we all need moments to step away, quiet our hearts, and listen again to the voice of the Lord.

Whether you are spiritually refreshed, weary, searching, or simply longing for more of God, this retreat is for you.

Come ready to be strengthened. Come ready to be reminded that God is still at work in your life.

Date: **June 11-13, 2026**
Registration Fee: **₱3,000.00**

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.

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LIVING WORD NRA
Worship God. Advance His Kingdom.

WHO REALLY IS ON TRIAL?

The Passion Narrative: From Betrayal to the Cross

Mark 15:1-15
Ptr. Nic Sy
May 10, 2026

SERMON NOTES

I. THE CHIEF PRIESTS: ROBES DON'T MAKE YOU RIGHTEOUS

envy | Greek *phthonos* | "displeasure for another's good"

The most dangerous corruption isn't the kind that looks evil; it's the kind that looks holy.

Reflect: When someone else is praised, promoted, trusted, or used by God, what happens inside you?

Envy is not a small sin. In this passage, envy helps send Jesus to the cross.

II. PILATE: POWER DOESN'T MAKE YOU BRAVE

Many people do not reject Jesus because they are convinced he is false. They reject him because following him would cost too much.

Reflect: Who gets to decide what faithfulness looks like in your life — Jesus or the crowd?

The cross is not only proof of human cowardice. It is proof of divine courage.

III. THE CROWD & BARNABAS: GUILT DOESN'T HAVE THE LAST WORD

Reflect: Have you ever truly sat with the fact that you are Barabbas?

The final word of this passage is not envy, cowardice, or crowd pressure. The final word is grace.

“WHO REALLY IS ON TRIAL?”

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of May 11-17, 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 funniest or most memorable “panic moment” you have experienced in life but later realized that there was really no reason to panic?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read Mark 15:1-15

1. In Mark 15:1, the religious leaders bind Jesus and deliver him to Pilate. What stands out to you about the speed and determination of these leaders “*as soon as it was morning*”? How does verse 10 help us understand what was really motivating them? Why is envy especially dangerous when it hides behind religious language or “concern”?

2. Envy often begins when we compare our place, influence, gifts, or recognition with someone else’s. Where do you most often feel the pull of comparison (e.g. in family, work, ministry, friendships, social media, or church life)? How does comparison slowly change the way we see other people? What would it look like to turn comparison into gratitude?

3. Pilate knew Jesus was innocent and verse 10 tells us he had already figured it out, yet verse 15 says he acted in order to “*satisfy the crowd.*” Look up Proverbs 29:25 together. What does that verse say the fear of man does to a person? Now read John 12:42-43. What did the fear of the Pharisees lead even some believing leaders to do, and what does verse 43 say they loved more than the approval of God? Where do you feel that same tension most in your own life right now?

4. Pilate’s failure in this passage was not a lack of power but a lack of courage to use that power for what it was meant for. Think about the places in your life where God has given you some measure of influence or authority (i.e. as a parent, an older sibling, a leader at work, a voice in your church or community.) Is there a situation where you already know what is right but have been hesitant or slow to act on? What would it look like to choose faithfulness to God over the approval of people?

5. In Mark 15:6-11, the crowd is stirred up to ask for Barabbas instead of Jesus. What do we know about Barabbas from verse 7? Why is it shocking that the crowd chooses him over Jesus? How does this scene help us understand the idea of substitution, that the guilty one is released while the innocent one is condemned?

6. This study showed us that when Jesus is put on trial, every heart is exposed. What did this passage expose in the religious leaders, Pilate, the crowd, and Barabbas? Which of these feels most personally challenging to you: envy, cowardice, crowd pressure, or guilt? How does the gospel give us hope when our hearts are exposed?

NEXT STEPS

The only innocent One in the room became the substitute for everyone guilty in the room.

- **Seek Honestly.** I will ask God to expose hidden envy, comparison, resentment, and pride in my heart.
- **Stand Courageously.** I will choose what is right before God, even when it is easier to satisfy the crowd.
- **Follow Faithfully.** I will not let the loudest voices around me shape my convictions more than Jesus and his Word.
- **Rest Gratefully.** I will live this week as someone set free because Jesus took my place.

CLOSING THE SESSION

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

- Pray for hearts that are honest before Jesus, courageous before the crowd, free from envy, and grateful for the innocent King who stood condemned in our place.
- 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

May 11	Mark 15:1-15
May 12	Isaiah 53:4-9
May 13	John 3:26-30
May 14	Exodus 23:1-9
May 15	1 Peter 2:18-25
May 16	Psalms 103:1-12
May 17	Psalms 103:13-22

