

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!

Women's Event

Ladies, join us for an inspiring **Women's Event** on **March 28, 2025!** Don't miss this opportunity to connect, recharge, and celebrate the unique bond we share as women of faith.

Holy Week Retreats

Mark your calendars for our upcoming **Holy Week Retreat!** This year, we are offering the same retreat on two different schedules (**April 14-16** and **April 17-19**) so you can choose the one that fits your schedule. Register early as there are limited slots!

How can we pray for you?

It is a privilege to pray for you! 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!



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
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FACEBOOK PAGE
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**GET IN TOUCH
WITH US!**

Living Word NRA
Worship God. Advance His Kingdom.

THE AUTHORITY BEHIND THE WORDS

The King Has Come: The Start of Something New (Series)
Pastor Nic Sy | February 16, 2025 | Mark 1:21-28

SERMON NOTES

Authority without expertise is dangerous. Expertise without authority is powerless.

I. JESUS' AUTHORITY IN TEACHING (Mark 1:22; Matthew 23:26)

Real holiness is not just about what you do or don't do, it's about who you are becoming.

II. JESUS' AUTHORITY OVER EVIL FORCES (Mark 1:23-26; Ephesians 6:12; Hebrews 2:14-15; John 8:36)

The good news is that Jesus' authority over evil is not just a past event; it is active today in our daily lives.

III. JESUS' AUTHORITY AND OUR RESPONSE (Mark 1:27-28; James 1:22)

It's one thing to be impressed by Jesus, but it's another to submit to him. It's one thing to talk about his power, but it's another to live under his authority.

Amazement doesn't transform us. Faith does.

- Amazement talks about Jesus, but faith walks with Jesus.
- Amazement is a feeling, but faith is an action.
- Amazement acknowledges his power, but faith submits to his authority.

ENDING THOUGHT

"The biggest threat to the church today is fans who call themselves Christians but aren't actually interested in following Christ. They want to be close enough to Jesus to get all the benefits, but not so close that it requires anything from them." - Kyle Idleman



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 17–23, 2025
“THE AUTHORITY BEHIND THE WORDS”

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.

If you could have control over one thing in life (e.g. traffic, weather, how long weekends last, etc.), what would it be and why?

Group Discussion

Read Mark 1:21-28

1. What does it mean that Jesus taught "as one who had authority"? How was this different from the teachers of the law? Why do you think the people were amazed at Jesus' teaching even before the exorcism took place?
2. The people in the synagogue were amazed by Jesus' teaching, but amazement doesn't always lead to faith. Have you ever been inspired by something in Scripture but struggled to apply it? What holds you back from action?
3. Compare Mark 1:21–28 with Matthew 8:28–34 (the Gadarene demoniacs). What similarities and differences do you notice in how Jesus exercises his authority over demons in these two accounts? What do these encounters teach you about Jesus' power and the nature of spiritual warfare?
4. Jesus' authority over the unclean spirit shows that no power is greater than him. How does this truth give you confidence in facing struggles, temptations, or spiritual battles?

5. Just as the crowd spread the news about Jesus, each believer has a story of how they encountered him. What is one thing that God has worked in your life recently that you could share with the group?

6. How does this verse challenge you to examine your own understanding and response to Jesus' authority? Are there areas in your life where you are hesitant to fully submit or surrender to him?

7. Compare Mark 1:28 with Mark 1:43–45. Why do you think Jesus sometimes tried to limit the spread of his fame? What lessons can you learn about humility and purpose? Serving quietly without recognition can be difficult. How can you find contentment in knowing that God sees and values your faithfulness, even if no one else notices?

Next Steps

Jesus doesn't need more admirers – he calls us to be disciples. His authority is not just meant to be acknowledged; it is meant to be obeyed.

- I will move from amazement to obedience.
- I will spend time in the Word to recognize Jesus' authority.
- I will walk in the power of Jesus' authority.
- I will tell others of Jesus and what he is doing in my life.

Closing the Session

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

- Pray for a faith not in mere words but for a life that's surrendered to the authority of Jesus.
- 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 17	Mark 1:21-28
February 18	Daniel 6:16-23
February 19	Matthew 7:24-29
February 20	Luke 8:22-25
February 21	Matthew 8:28-34
February 22	Psalms 45:1-17
February 23	Matthew 9:35-38