

2026-05-17 5 Day Devotional

5-Day Devotional: Seeing People Through God's Eyes

Day 1: Opening Our Eyes to See

Reading: Mark 8:22-26

Devotional: When Jesus healed the blind man in two stages, it wasn't a failure—it was a lesson. The man first saw people as trees walking around. How often do we look at people without truly seeing them? We pass hundreds of individuals daily, yet do we notice their pain, their needs, their souls? Jesus asks us the same question He asked the blind man: "Do you see anything?" Perhaps we need a second touch from Christ to truly see people as He does—not as obstacles, inconveniences, or strangers, but as eternal souls created in God's image. Today, ask God to touch your eyes again, to help you see beyond the surface and recognize the divine appointments He places in your path.

Day 2: The Rich Man and Lazarus

Reading: Luke 16:19-31

Devotional: The rich man stepped over Lazarus daily, never truly seeing him. Only in eternity did he recognize what mattered. This sobering account reminds us that our earthly circumstances don't determine our eternal destiny—our response to God and others does. The rich man had everything yet lacked compassion; Lazarus had nothing yet possessed eternal comfort. We live in a world obsessed with accumulation, but Jesus redirects our focus to eternal values. Who are we stepping over in our pursuit of comfort and success? God may be placing people at our gates not just for their benefit, but for ours—to test our hearts and refine our character. The question isn't whether we have much or little, but whether we see and respond to those God places before us.

Day 3: Humility in High and Low Places

Reading: James 1:2-12

Devotional: James turns worldly values upside down: the humble should take pride in their high position, while the rich should embrace their humiliation. This paradox reveals heaven's economy. Trials, difficulties, and humble circumstances can be our greatest treasures because they position us to depend completely on God. When we lack wisdom, we simply ask—God gives generously without finding fault. The danger isn't in having much or little, but in being double-minded, unstable, seeking God's provision while refusing His direction. Are we asking God for wisdom yet ignoring His answers because they're uncomfortable? True stability comes from single-minded devotion to Christ, whether we find ourselves in abundance or need. Both the wealthy and the poor will fade like wildflowers; only what's done for Christ endures.

Day 4: Quick to Listen, Slow to Speak

Reading: James 1:16-27

Devotional: Every good gift comes from above, from the Father who doesn't change. Yet how quickly we forget this truth when faced with someone in need. James commands us to be quick to listen and slow to speak—wisdom that transforms how we encounter others. Listening requires stopping, engaging, seeing people as more than interruptions to our agenda. The beggar at the gate, the stranger at the intersection, the coworker struggling in silence—each carries a story, a soul, eternal value. We're often quick to judge, quick to dismiss, quick to justify our inaction. But God calls us to be doers of the word, not merely hearers. True religion involves caring for those in distress. Today, practice being quick to listen—to God's Spirit and to the people He places before you.

Day 5: Living Sacrifices in a Selfish World

Reading: Romans 12:1-2

Devotional: In view of God's mercy—Jesus dying on the cross—we're called

to present ourselves as living sacrifices. This is our reasonable response to such extravagant love. But living as a sacrifice means dying to ourselves daily, being transformed by the renewing of our minds rather than conforming to worldly patterns. The world says accumulate, protect, advance yourself. God says give, serve, love sacrificially. We justify our closed hands while claiming open hearts. But Jesus held nothing back—not His comfort, His reputation, His very life. As His followers, we're called to the same radical generosity. This doesn't mean foolishness, but Spirit-led compassion. Ask God today: Who have You placed in my path? What would sacrificial love look like in this moment? Let Him transform your vision from seeing trees to seeing souls worth everything to Him.