

2026-05-17 Summary

This powerful message challenges us to examine how we truly see the people around us. Drawing from Mark 8, where Jesus heals a blind man in two stages, we're confronted with an uncomfortable question: Do we see people as God sees them, or do they just look like 'trees walking around'? The sermon unpacks the sobering parable of the rich man and Lazarus from Luke 16, revealing that our eternal destiny may be connected to how we respond to those in need right in front of us. The rich man stepped over Lazarus every single day at his gate, never truly seeing him as a person created in God's image. This isn't just about wealth versus poverty—it's about spiritual blindness that prevents us from recognizing divine appointments. James 1 reminds us that God values the humble in circumstances and warns the wealthy about their low spiritual position if they hoard rather than share. We're called to ask ourselves: Who are we stepping over? What divine opportunities are we missing because we're too busy, too focused on our own agendas, or too concerned about protecting what we have? This message invites us to pray for spiritual vision that sees beyond our comfortable routines and recognizes that every person we encounter might be a providential placement from God—either to bless them or to be blessed by them.