



**St. Mark**  
**10:46-52**  
New International Version  
1984 (NIV1984)

## **The Healing of Blind Bartimaeus**

<sup>46</sup> They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. <sup>47</sup> When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' <sup>48</sup> *Many sternly ordered him to be quiet*, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' <sup>49</sup> Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.' And they called the blind man, saying to him, 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' <sup>50</sup> So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. <sup>51</sup> Then Jesus said to him, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him, 'My teacher, let me see again.' <sup>52</sup> Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way. NRSV

### ✧ **Life is filtered through EXPECTATIONS**

<http://www.ourchurchvideos.com/76102/fumcftw/audios/load/recent/5>

This noise clouds the way you perceive others and, more importantly, how you perceive yourself. Clearing away false beliefs and practicing masterful self-awareness takes time and dedication.

# Encounters

## LENT 2013

### CONFRONTATIONAL DISCIPLESHIP

#### ✧ BROKENNESS ✧

"My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise." Psalm 51:17

#### ✧ **Confront the LABELS**

"Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!'"

#### ✧ **Confront the Big QUESTION**

"What do you want Jesus to do for you?" v51

"There are three types of people: those who see, those who see when they are shown, and those who do not see." da Vinci

#### ✧ **Confront the FUTURE with Faith.**

"Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way." John 21:15



## **Who is God?**

God is a personal being, infinite in love, knowledge and power. He is perfect in wisdom, goodness, righteousness, justice, holiness, and truth. God is both the creator and sustainer of the universe. He is the final goal and judge of the universe, infinite and perfect in all his attributes.

The Jewish/Christian understanding of God is unique among all the religions of the world. Hinduism remains uncertain whether we can know that God is personal, or infinite in his perfection. Islam affirms that God is infinite in his perfection, but is uncertain if God can be personally knowable. Buddhism is officially nontheistic, denying all first causes, including God. In contrast, Christians affirm that God is personal and knowable.

To say that he is perfect in all his attributes is to declare that every attribute of God is enjoyed by him in its perfect state. He is infinitely pure, infinitely holy, infinitely righteous, infinitely loving and so forth. Because we only know these attributes in fragmentary and distorted ways, we cannot fully comprehend how all the attributes are held perfectly and infinitely by God. Sometimes we may look at circumstances and not be able to discern how the justice or love of God is manifest in certain situations. We do find comfort, however, in knowing that in the end, we shall see him as he truly is, and he will make all things right.

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**READ:** 1 Chr 29:10-13, 2 Chr 20:6, Job 42:2, Psalm 90, Isaiah 44:6

**AUDIO PODCAST:** [www.sermon.net/First\\_Church](http://www.sermon.net/First_Church)

“God uses broken things. It takes broken soil to produce a crop, broken clouds to give rain, broken grain to give bread, broken bread to give strength. It is the broken alabaster box that gives forth perfume. It is Peter, weeping bitterly, who returns to greater power than ever.”

Vance Havner

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