

## Congregation Sermon Outline

### How Do I Know I'm Really Helping?

Rev. Jon Barrett | Executive Director of CVCCS

- Did you know, there is a **right way** and a **wrong way** to be charitable?
- At CVCCS, we've seen as a community, that in our zeal to help others believe it or not we can **do harm** to those we're trying to help.

**MAIN TEXT:** John 5:1-15

**MAIN POINT:** You can't meet the need unless you have a Biblical view of charity.

**3 key elements from Jesus showing how to properly meet needs Biblically:**

• **#1. Jesus used discernment (See verse 6)**

- Jesus asked a KEY question in V6, *'Do you want to get well?'*
- In order to truly help someone, they have to **want** to be helped.
- It's ok to ask **personal questions** and investigate if someone comes to you for help.
- Don't get swept up in **urgency**.

• **#2. Jesus formed connections (See verse 7)**

- The man replied to Jesus in V7, *"I have no one to help me..."*
- There's a strong link between **poverty** and **broken relationships**.
- We can weaken someone's **social capital** by our 'good intentions' to swoop in and solve their issue for them.
- If possible, we should connect them back to **immediate loved ones, friends, or neighbors**.

• **#3. Jesus gave expectations (See verse 14)**

- Jesus said to the man at the temple in V14, *"See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you."*
- Only Jesus was perfect, however, it's **not** ungodly to have expectations of people!
- Setting **expectations and accountability** communicates **worth and trust**.
- The LORD Himself is... Compassionate, just, **and expectant**.