



Sermon  
Discussion  
Guide

Sunday, February 22, 2026

# The Body of Christ - Anatomy of Redemption

## The Mind of Christ

### Read/Reflect

1. Read Matthew 4:1-11. Notice the placement of this particular story in Matthew's gospel. Is the story randomly placed? What comes before it and after? Does the context give you a clue about the purpose of this story in the gospel? What Old Testament story does this echo (think "40")?
2. Each of the temptations Jesus faces actually suggest a more comfortable and successful life for himself, yet he resists all of them. What does that say about the direction of Jesus' life and ministry? What does that suggest about following Jesus?
3. Both Jesus and the tempter use Scripture to assert their view. What might this suggest about how we use the Bible?

### Explore

4. Jesus begins his ministry not with achievement but identity (Mt.3:17). In your mind, what is the source of your worth – in belonging to Christ or in your performance? What kinds of things help you affirm your sense of belonging to Christ?
5. Refer to Philippians 2:5-11. How does the image of "emptying yourself" (or "becoming nothing") fit into your life if you are to have the same mind as Christ? What shifts when the "body of Christ" has a mind to "stand with" rather than to "stand out?"
6. What spiritual habits help you cultivate a mind that can relinquish control, a mind that listens, yields, and follows?
7. In this season of Lent is there an aspect of Christ's mind (belonging, vulnerability, obedience) that you sense God leading you into?

### Pray

- ... that in this season of Lent God would continue to form us as the body of Christ and shape our life together to better reflect the life of Jesus.
- ... about whatever came up in answering question 7.