

# *“BE-ing Spirit Led Into Extreme Discomfort”*

Matthew 4:2

September 15, 2024

**INTRO:** *How comfortable are you with discomfort?*

When was the last time you **considered Christ** AND...  
His calling & commissioning of you to BE  
**extremely uncomfortable?**

**VIDEO:** *“Consider Him #1”*

**PREVIEW:**

1. Consider His Discomfort **VERTICALLY**
2. Consider His Discomfort **HORIZONTALLY**
3. Consider His Discomfort **MISSIONALLY**

**CONTEXT:**

- Matthew’s Gospel on Jesus’ Gospel: **mMm**
- Chapter’s 1-3... *Introduction, Inauguration, Coronation*
- **Matthew 4:1** = Jesus being led by the Spirit... **4X**
- Today we unpack **Matthew 4:2** ...prep of vv.3-11

**BIG IDEA:** **(WE’LL SHARE LATER IN THE MESSAGE...)**

## TEXT:

### Matthew 4:2

*And after fasting forty days and forty nights,  
he was hungry.*

## I. Consider His Discomfort **VERTICALLY** *(Define, Describe, Deploy)*

### A. DEFINE:

#### a. **And**

- i. Conjunction, connecting back & forward...
- ii. Modifier & pointer...

#### b. **After**

- i. Chronological time is being referenced...
  1. NOT before...
  2. NOT during...
- ii. Like “and,” “after” is a modifier & pointer

#### c. **Fasting**

- i. **Definition** is important...
  1. Simple definition...
  2. Debated definitions...
  3. Contextual definition = the simple one...
- ii. **Distraction** is also a potential issue...
  1. It would be easy to focus on fasting here.
  2. **The text is not focused on the fasting...**

d. **Forty**      **VIDEO:** “40 In The Bible” (GotQuestions)

e. **Days**

- i. Obvious definition... “the day(s)”
- ii. Subtle point... much fasting was a day-only fast

f. **And** (conjunction... there’s more to connect)

g. **Forty nights,**

- i. Another obvious term with subtleties...
- ii. Establishes part of the absoluteness of the fast
- iii. Eliminates any corner-cutting or compromise...
- iv. Underscores the miraculous work of God...
- v. Explains why “He was hungry.”

h. **He**

- i. More obvious AND subtle meaning...
- ii. He is Jesus The Christ
- iii. Jesus The Christ is God incarnate
  - 1. 100 % God
  - 2. 100% man

i. **Was**

- i. NOTE: both time and reality are referenced...
- ii. “Was” is related to “after”
- iii. “Was” is also a modifier & pointer...

j. **hungry.**

- i. Here again... see the obvious & the subtleties
- ii. **Jesus was Spirit-led AND He was hungry!**
- iii. After 40 days/nights of fasting He was hungry
- iv. Jesus the God-man was both divine & human.
- v. Jesus the man was holy, sinless, AND hungry...

## B. DESCRIBE:

- a. *Fulfilling all righteousness...*
- b. *BE-ing led by The Holy Spirit...*
- c. ***He was hungry.***

Jesus was truly HOLY, HUMBLE, and HUMAN! – JDP

**To be the biblical Messiah & Christ...  
the humanity of Jesus  
was just as necessary as His deity.**

Let that sink in Christian...

**See the beautiful “both/and” tension of LORD & Savior!**

## C. DEPLOY:

- a. Descension    Luke 19:10 & John 18:37
- b. Incarnation    John 1:1-18 *The Word became flesh...*
- c. Humiliation    *Born in barn... killed on a cross!*
- d. Crucifixion    Isaiah 52:14; John 3:16; Hebrews 12:1-3
- e. Resurrection    *He is risen! Our God reigns!* Ps. 93:1-2
- f. Declaration    Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:18-20; John 20:21
- g. Ascension    Acts 1:9 & 7:56; Romans 8:34; Heb. 1:3

## II. Consider His Discomfort **HORIZONTALLY** (Deity, Humanity, Singularity)

### A. Deity (foundation)

- a. God The Son
- b. Creator
- c. Christ
- d. King
- e. LORD

**VIDEO:** *“Consider Him #2”*

### f. Savior

- i. Requires the power of deity
- ii. Requires the person of humanity
- iii. Requires the peculiarity of His humility

### B. Humanity (family)

- a. He was **born** of a woman (INCARNATION)
  - i. *Son of Mary*
  - ii. *Son of Abraham*
  - iii. *Son of David*
- b. He was **endangered** with attempted murder...
- c. He was **raised** by imperfect, human parents...
- d. He was **challenged** natural, human dynamics...
  - i. He had to grow up... crawl, walk, run...
  - ii. He had to mature & develop...
  - iii. He had to go through puberty...
  - iv. He had sinful family, friends, & neighbors.

- v. He had to learn Joseph's carpenter trade...
- vi. He had to please & glorify God at all times.
- vii. He had to sinlessly overcome...
  1. His Hunger & Thirst
  2. His Weariness & Suffering
  3. His Anger & His Agony
  4. Other's troublemaking & temptations
  5. Other's hellish-lies & holy-hypocrisy
  6. Other's Satanic sins & sabotage
- viii. He had to deal with the Devil... head on.
- ix. He had to overcome all sin & temptation...
- x. He had to submit to the Holy Spirit's lead!
  - a. Matthew 4:1-2 & Acts 1:8
  - b. Matthew 28:18-20 & Titus 2:15
  - c. Galatians 4:4-5 & 2 Cor. 5:21
  - d. Hebrews 4:15 & Hebrews 10:4
  - e. 1 John 4:23
  - f. 1 Peter 2:21 & 1 Peter 2:24

### **C. SINGULARITY (faith)**

- a. Jesus Christ's "both/and singularity" is a biblical blessing, personal paradox, and it lies at the core of Christ's Gospel, grace & glory. - JDP

### **VIDEO:**

*"What Was The Purpose of Jesus' 40 Day Fast?"*

## **III. Consider His Discomfort MISSIONALLY**

***he was hungry.***

(He was human.)

***CONSIDER HIM...***

In his humanity, he was just like you & me!

**BIG IDEA:**

Christ's Spirit-led humanity...  
inspires human, Spirit-led Christianity!

**VIDEO:** *"Consider Him 3"*

***Humanity's Christianity reflects  
Christ's humanity!***

(Humanity's **true & pure** Christianity... requires &  
reflects... Christ's **true & pure** humanity!)

Christ came to be like us...  
so that we could & would go & BE like Him!

-JDP

## REVIEW:

*To stress the weakness of the victorious soldier...  
is to stress & revere the strength of the victor's Source.*

- JDP

It's important to recognize BOTH, what Jesus did that you & I can't do... AND, what Jesus did that we CAN do!

- BE... the light of the world!
- BE Spirit-led...
- BE victorious over ALL temptation & sin...
- BE pleasing to The Father, (even in unpleasant times & places)
- BE God-honoring, holy, hope-filled, & healing in this God-hating, unholy, hope-less, & hurting world.
- BE a God-glorifying witness in a wild wilderness world!

## CLOSE:

➤ Warning

### 12 Most Inspiring Leadership Lessons from Bible Characters

The Bible has been around for thousands of years. Historically, it has been the cause of much good as well as the scapegoat for much dissension. Some have loved the book and some have hated it. **When examined outside of its religious and historical context, though, and merely as a work of literature, few can say that it is anything less than a masterpiece.**

The depth of character within the people of the Biblical stories is astounding. They faced great challenges and overcame them with faith and endurance. For leaders in business today, there is much to learn from these **ordinary people who made decisions that transformed them into extraordinary legends.** Organizational leadership is in dire **need of that level of conviction and determination.** The characters of the Bible can teach us a great deal.

- 1. Noah: Leaders do what's right even if they are alone**
- 2. Abraham: Leaders embrace the unknown**
- 3. Joseph: Leaders endure in spite of circumstances**
- 4. Moses: Leaders stick up for their people**
- 5. Joshua: Leaders rule by example rather than command**
- 6. David: Leaders are not afraid of giants**
- 7. Isaiah: Leaders rise to the occasion**
- 8. Daniel: Leaders maintain their resolve without regard for consequences**
- 9. John the Baptist: Leaders aren't afraid to call out the phonies**
- 10. Jesus: Leaders are servants**
- 11. Peter: Leaders recover from failure**
- 12. Paul: Leaders are passionate for what they believe in**

# PRAYER