



SERIES: SETTING THE STAGE PART 1 (10.22.2023)

"NOT BY BREAD ALONE" MATTHEW 4:1-11

AT A GLANCE

Before Jesus began his ministry, he spent 40 days in the desert. After his fast was over he was tempted by the devil. These temptation do address some of the weakest areas in our lives and Jesus' responses offer us some practical teachings about 'dealing with temptations.' However, Jesus' responses also reveal to us the worldview he was bringing into the ministry he was about to being.

We begin this series with the 1st temptation. The devil entices Jesus to adopt a worldview in which material (and intellectual) fulfillment leads to the spiritual. Jesus' response is a quote from Deuteronomy 8:2-3. In it, Moses reminded the Israelites that it was in the midst of struggle that they truly submitted to God, not in the midst of material abundance.

"As image and apprehension are in organic unity, so, for a Christian, are human body and human soul."

> C. S. Lewis God in the Dock, 1972

DISCUSISION QUESTIONS

During the sermon, pastor Jaekuk mentioned that we hall have a Marty McFly within. The part of us that flares when someone challenges our selfworth. When do you most often see this "Marty McFly" show up in your life?

Would you agree that struggle is more conducive to an intentional spiritual life? What sort of guardrails can we place to remind ourselves of the need for spiritual fulfillment in the midst of material comfort?

What makes you feel most "spiritual" in you daily life? What aspect of your faith life brings you closest to God?

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

Think of some small but certain steps you can take to intentionally seek spiritual nourishment. Identify the relationships or personal practices that will help you be mindful of your spiritual hunger.

NOTES

