

Exercise 2A: Have the Mind of Christ

(1) Don't push your way to the front; don't sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand. **Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself.** He had equal status with God but didn't think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all! When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became human! Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death—and the worst kind of death at that—a crucifixion. [Phil 2:3-8, The Message]

Write down what the Holy Spirit convicted you of during the Scripture reading.*

(2) Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. **Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:** Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross! [New International Version]

Write down what the Holy Spirit convicted you of during the Scripture reading.*

(3) Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. [King James Version, 21st].
Let the same mind be in you, _____, that was in Christ Jesus. [NRSV]
You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. [New Living Translation]
Have this attitude in yourself, _____, which was also in Christ Jesus. [NASB]
You should think in the same way Christ Jesus does. [New International Reader's Version].
Think, _____, the same way Jesus Christ thought. [Worldwide English New Testament]

Write down what the Holy Spirit convicted you of during the Scripture reading.*

* Share what you wrote if you are two or more.