SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Ezekiel

Chapter 11

The Pot, the New Heart, the Mountain

MEMORY VERSE · EZEKIEL 11:19-20

"And I will give them one heart, and put a new spirit within them. And I will take the heart of stone out of their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in My statutes and keep My ordinances and do them. Then they will be My people, and I shall be their God."

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Ezekiel 11

This week God turns the tables: the men who felt safest are judged, and the men told they were far from God are promised a new heart. If your heart has gone hard from using, hurting or being hurt, this chapter is for you. God does the heart surgery; your part is to come out from behind your walls.

How to use this journal

1. Each day, read the passage slowly — out loud if you can.
2. Answer the **Observe** question from the text before you write what it means.
3. Write honestly on the **Reflect** questions. No one grades this.
4. Do the **Respond** step today, not someday. Say the memory verse.
5. Bring this journal to the group. The last page is for the table.

The O·I·A study, the slides and the film for this chapter are on the Ezekiel study page.

WHERE I AM AS I START THIS CHAPTER

What is going on in my life right now that I want to bring to God this week?

DAY 1 OF 5

The Pot and the Meat

READ · EZEKIEL 11:1–4

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Who stands at the east gate, and what is their slogan (vv1–3)?

REFLECT

The leaders said, "This city is the pot and we are the flesh" (v3), trusting the walls to keep them safe. What walls have you trusted more than God?

REFLECT

These men "devise iniquity and give evil advice" (v2). Whose advice have you been listening to lately, and where is it leading?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down your own 'pot', the thing you lean on when you say 'I've got this', and hand it to God in prayer.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 11:19–20)

DAY 2 OF 5

God Knows Your Thoughts

READ · EZEKIEL 11:5–13

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What does God say He knows in v5, and what happens to Pelatiah in v13?

REFLECT

God says, "for I know your thoughts" (v5). Which of your private thoughts would you be most uncomfortable having God read out loud, and why?

REFLECT

When Pelatiah died, Ezekiel did not gloat; he cried out for the remnant (v13). How do you react when someone who has hurt you or opposed God falls?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pray for one person you have been secretly glad to see fail.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 11:19–20)

DAY 3 OF 5

A Sanctuary in a Far Country

READ · EZEKIEL 11:14–16

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did the people in Jerusalem tell the exiles (v15), and what did God say He had been to them (v16)?

REFLECT

Jerusalem told the exiles, "Go far from the LORD" (v15). Who has written you off, or whom have you written off?

REFLECT

God says He was a sanctuary to them "a little while in the countries where they had gone" (v16). Where are you right now, and how can God be your sanctuary there?

RESPOND — TODAY

Find one quiet spot where you are this week and meet God there each day, even for five minutes.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 11:19–20)

DAY 4 OF 5

A Heart of Flesh

READ · EZEKIEL 11:17–21

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

List everything God promises to do in vv17–20. Who is doing the work in each promise?

REFLECT

God promises to take out "the heart of stone" (v19). Where has your heart gone hard, cold or numb, toward God or toward people?

REFLECT

The new heart has a purpose: "that they may walk in My statutes" (v20). How should God's grace change the way you walk this week, not just how you feel?

RESPOND — TODAY

Ask God out loud to take out the stone and give you a heart of flesh. Then write down one act of obedience that new heart calls for today.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 11:19–20)

DAY 5 OF 5

The Glory on the Mountain

READ · EZEKIEL 11:22–25

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Where does the glory go in v23, and what does Ezekiel do when the vision ends (vv24–25)?

REFLECT

The glory paused on the mountain east of the city (v23), the same hill where Jesus would weep over Jerusalem. What does that pause tell you about God's heart toward people who reject Him?

REFLECT

Ezekiel "told the exiles all the things that the LORD had shown me" (v25). What has God shown you this week that someone else needs to hear?

RESPOND — TODAY

Share one thing from Ezekiel 11 with another man this week, by call, letter or face to face.

❒ READ IT ❒ PRAYED IT ❒ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 11:19–20)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

What false securities do men in our group lean on the way Jerusalem's leaders leaned on the pot (v3)?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

How should a church treat the man with a record, the addict or the one who failed publicly, in light of how God treated the exiles (vv15–16)?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

What is the difference between trying harder and receiving a new heart from God (vv19–20)?

MY PRAYER

Father, take out the stone in me and give me a heart of flesh, and…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · EZEKIEL 11:19-20

"And I will give them one heart, and put a new spirit within them. And I will take the heart of stone out of their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in My statutes and keep My ordinances and do them. Then they will be My people, and I shall be their God."