SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Ezekiel

Chapter 14

Idols in the Heart: Noah, Daniel and Job

MEMORY VERSE · EZEKIEL 14:6

"Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, Repent and turn away from your idols and turn your faces away from all your abominations."

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Ezekiel 14

This week God looks past where I sit to what sits on the throne of my heart. He is not trying to embarrass me; He wants to lay hold of my heart and bring me home. Let Him show you your idols, turn your face away from them, and walk with Him yourself.

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

Idols Behind the Eyes

READ · EZEKIEL 14:1–5

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Where were the elders sitting (v1), and where were their idols set up (v3)?

REFLECT

What is set "right before" my face — the thing I keep looking at and living toward — that competes with God (v3)?

REFLECT

God wanted to "lay hold of the hearts" of men estranged from Him (v5). How does it change things to know He is after my heart, not just my behavior?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down one idol in your heart by name, and give it to God in a short, honest prayer.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 14:6)

DAY 2 OF 5

Turn Your Face

READ · EZEKIEL 14:6-8

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What three "turns" does God command in v6, and who besides Israelites does the call include (v7)?

REFLECT

What practical step would "turn your faces away" (v6) from my idol this week — a number, a route, an app, a room?

REFLECT

Why do you think God says He will answer such a man "in My own person" (v7) instead of through a prophet?

RESPOND — TODAY

Take one concrete step today that turns your face away from what pulls you, and tell someone you did it.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 14:6)

DAY 3 OF 5

Shopping for the Answer I Want

READ · EZEKIEL 14:9–11

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

According to v10, how does the guilt of the prophet compare with the guilt of the man who inquired?

REFLECT

When have I gone looking for the friend or voice who would tell me 'You're fine' instead of the truth (v9)?

REFLECT

God's goal is "Thus they will be My people, and I shall be their God" (v11). Where do I need to hear that hard words come from a God who wants me back?

RESPOND — TODAY

Ask one man who loves you enough to say no: 'Where do you see me fooling myself?' Listen without defending.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 14:6)

DAY 4 OF 5

No Borrowed Faith

READ · EZEKIEL 14:12–20

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Name the four judgments in vv13–19 and what Noah, Daniel and Job could and could not do in each.

REFLECT

Whose faith have I been leaning on instead of my own — a mother's, a wife's, a pastor's (v14)?

REFLECT

Noah, Daniel and Job could not save their children (v16). How does that point me to Christ, the only One whose righteousness covers others?

RESPOND — TODAY

Spend ten minutes alone with God today — not through anyone else — and pray for one person you love by name.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 14:6)

DAY 5 OF 5

God Is Never Wrong

READ · EZEKIEL 14:21–23

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What will the exiles see when the survivors arrive, and what will they then know (vv22–23)?

REFLECT

Where have I doubted that God was fair in something He allowed in my life (v23)?

REFLECT

How can seeing the consequences of sin in others' lives comfort me without making me proud (v22)?

RESPOND — TODAY

Thank God for one hard thing in your past that you now see was not “in vain” (v23).

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 14:6)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

The elders looked right while their hearts were divided (vv1–3). What helps a group of men be honest with each other about what is really on the throne?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

Which idols are most common among the men in this room, and what does turning the face away from them look like together (v6)?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

If no one can be saved by Noah's or Job's righteousness (v14), how do we share Christ with family members we cannot save ourselves?

MY PRAYER

Lord GOD, You see what I have set up in my heart, and I ask You to lay hold of it again, so today I turn my face away from…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · EZEKIEL 14:6

"Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, Repent and turn away from your idols and turn your faces away from all your abominations."