SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Ezekiel

Chapter 19

Lament for the Princes: Lions Caged, Vine Burned

MEMORY VERSE · EZEKIEL 19:10

"Your mother was like a vine in your vineyard, Planted by the waters; It was fruitful and full of branches Because of abundant waters."

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Ezekiel 19

This week God hands you a funeral song. It is honest about men who learned to devour and leaders who burned down what God planted — and it invites you to grieve over sin instead of shrugging at it, and to stay rooted in the One whose water makes a life fruitful.

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

A Song for the Fallen

READ · EZEKIEL 19:1–2

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What kind of song does God tell Ezekiel to take up, and for whom (v1)? How is the mother described in v2?

REFLECT

God told Ezekiel to lament, not mock or shrug (v1). When a man you know goes back out or wrecks his family, what does your heart usually do?

REFLECT

The lioness lay among lions and raised her cubs among them (v2). What kind of lions were you raised among, and what did they teach you?

RESPOND — TODAY

Name one man who has fallen hard, and instead of talking about him today, take a few minutes to grieve and pray for him by name.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 19:10)

DAY 2 OF 5

Learning to Devour

READ · EZEKIEL 19:3–4

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did the first cub learn to do (v3), and what happened to him when the nations heard about him (v4)?

REFLECT

He "learned to tear his prey" (v3). Nobody is born a predator. What did you learn — on the street, in the yard, in your home — that taught you to take from people instead of serve them?

REFLECT

Jehoahaz used his power to devour his own people (v3). Where have you used your strength, words or position to take from the people closest to you?

RESPOND — TODAY

Confess one specific way you have devoured someone, and ask God to show you one way to serve that person this week instead.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 19:10)

DAY 3 OF 5

A Roar Silenced

READ · EZEKIEL 19:5–9

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did the mother do when she saw “That her hope was lost” (v5)? What did the second young lion do, and how did his story end (vv7–9)?

REFLECT

The whole land was “appalled Because of the sound of his roaring” (v7), yet his voice was “heard no more” (v9). Where are you roaring loud while refusing to listen to God's Word?

REFLECT

The mother put her hope in another cub (v5). Where have you put your hope in a person or a plan that could not carry it?

RESPOND — TODAY

Spend ten quiet minutes reading Scripture before you speak to anyone today, and ask God to make you a listener before you are a roarer.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 19:10)

DAY 4 OF 5

Where the Water Comes From

READ · EZEKIEL 19:10–11

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Why was the vine fruitful and full of branches, according to v10? What was it able to produce (v11)?

REFLECT

Everything the vine had came "Because of abundant waters" (v10). In your good seasons, what makes you forget where the water came from?

REFLECT

Jesus said, 'I am the vine, you are the branches' (John 15:5). What does abiding in Him look like on an ordinary Tuesday for you?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down three good things in your life right now and next to each one write how God supplied it. Thank Him for each.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 19:10)

DAY 5 OF 5

Fire from Its Own Branch

READ · EZEKIEL 19:12–14

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

List what happened to the vine in vv12–14. Where did the fire that consumed it come from (v14)?

REFLECT

The worst damage came from inside the vine, not from Babylon (v14). What inside you — pride, lust, stubbornness, resentment — is a bigger threat than anything outside?

REFLECT

The song ends with "not in it a strong branch, A scepter to rule" (v14). How does Jesus, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, answer that empty throne for you?

RESPOND — TODAY

Name the fire in your own branch to God and to one trusted brother, and ask them to check in with you about it this week.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 19:10)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

Why would God have Ezekiel sing a funeral song before the funeral happened (v1, v14)? What does that tell us about how God feels about sin's ruin?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

Both cubs learned to devour (vv3, 6). How can our group help a man unlearn what the street or the yard taught him?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

The vine was planted by abundant waters and still burned (vv10, 14). What keeps a fruitful man from becoming a burning branch?

MY PRAYER

Lord, give me a heart that weeps over sin instead of shrugging at it, and root out the fire in my own branches before it burns what You have planted…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · EZEKIEL 19:10

"Your mother was like a vine in your vineyard, Planted by the waters; It was fruitful and full of branches Because of abundant waters."