SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Ezekiel

Chapter 24

The Rusted Pot and the Prophet's Loss

MEMORY VERSE · EZEKIEL 24:18

"So I spoke to the people in the morning, and in the evening my wife died. And in the morning I did as I was commanded."

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Ezekiel 24

This week we stand with Ezekiel on the hardest day of his life. God knew the day the siege began, He knew the rust no one else could scrub off, and He asked His prophet to keep obeying through deep loss. Bring Him your own rust and your own grief, and ask for a heart that still says 'yes, Lord' in the morning.

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

God Knows the Day

READ · EZEKIEL 24:1–2

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What exactly does God tell Ezekiel to write down, and what was happening that very day (vv1–2)?

REFLECT

God knew the day the siege began before any messenger could carry the news (v2). What day in your life do you wish God had stopped, and how does it change things to know He saw it?

REFLECT

The written date later proved God had spoken. Where has God's Word already proved true in your own story?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down one date that changed your life — good or bad — and give that day to God in prayer.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 24:18)

DAY 2 OF 5

The Rust in the Pot

READ · EZEKIEL 24:3–14

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Follow the pot through verses 3–11: what goes in, what comes out, and what happens to the empty pot at the end?

REFLECT

God says, "I would have cleansed you, Yet you are not clean" (v13). What sin have you kept scrubbing at the surface instead of bringing to the cross?

REFLECT

Jerusalem left her blood "on the bare rock," shedding it openly without shame (v7). Where has sin in your life stopped feeling shameful to you?

RESPOND — TODAY

Name one piece of rust to God today, specifically, and ask a brother to check in with you about it this week.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 24:18)

DAY 3 OF 5

Grief That Still Obeys

READ · EZEKIEL 24:15–18

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did God warn Ezekiel was coming, what was he told not to do, and what did he do the next morning (vv16–18)?

REFLECT

Ezekiel was allowed to grieve, only not with public display — he was to "Groan silently" (v17). What loss are you still carrying, and how have you been handling it?

REFLECT

"In the morning I did as I was commanded" (v18). What is the next right thing God is asking of you, even in a hard season?

RESPOND — TODAY

Do the next right thing today that you have been putting off, and tell God honestly how you feel while you do it.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 24:18)

DAY 4 OF 5

The Desire of Your Eyes

READ · EZEKIEL 24:19–24

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What three phrases does God use for the sanctuary in verse 21, and what will happen to it?

REFLECT

The people trusted the temple more than the God of the temple (v21). What good thing — a church, a program, a sponsor, a relationship — have you leaned on in God's place?

REFLECT

God said, "Thus Ezekiel will be a sign to you" (v24). How might your life, including your losses, point other men to God?

RESPOND — TODAY

Thank God for one good gift in your life, and then tell Him plainly that He matters more than the gift.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 24:18)

DAY 5 OF 5

The Mouth Opened

READ · EZEKIEL 24:25–27

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Who will come to Ezekiel, and what will happen to the prophet's mouth on that day (vv26–27)?

REFLECT

Ezekiel's long silence ended, and his message turned to hope (v27). Where do you feel stuck in a season of silence, and what would hope look like there?

REFLECT

God promised the worst news would not be the last word. How does Jesus' resurrection give you that same promise for your story?

RESPOND — TODAY

Share one word of hope with a man who is going through a hard season — a call, a letter or a visit.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 24:18)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

What is the difference between grieving 'as do the rest who have no hope' (1 Thess 4:13) and grieving as a believer, and where did you see that in Ezekiel (v17)?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

Why do you think God let Ezekiel's personal loss become a public sign, and what does that say about how God can use our pain (v24)?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

What is one "temple" men like us are tempted to trust more than God, and how can we help each other keep our eyes on Him (v21)?

MY PRAYER

Lord GOD, burn away the rust I have refused to let You clean, and help me obey You tomorrow morning in…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · EZEKIEL 24:18

"So I spoke to the people in the morning, and in the evening my wife died. And in the morning I did as I was commanded."