SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Ezekiel

Chapter 29

The Monster in the Nile: Egypt's Broken Reed

MEMORY VERSE · EZEKIEL 29:21

"On that day I will make a horn sprout for the house of Israel, and I will open your mouth in their midst. Then they will know that I am the LORD."

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Ezekiel 29

This week God asks you to look honestly at what you lean on. Pharaoh thought he owned the river, and Israel thought Egypt would hold them up — both were wrong. Let the Lord show you the reed staffs in your hand, and let Him be the One who carries your whole weight.

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 Crocodile's Boast

READ · EZEKIEL 29:1–5

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What exactly did Pharaoh say about the Nile (v3), and what does God say He will do to him in verses 4–5?

REFLECT

Where do you hear yourself saying "my" — my money, my recovery, my family, my reputation — as though you made it yourself (v3)?

REFLECT

Pharaoh's fish clung to his scales and were dragged out with him (vv4–5). Whose 'scales' have you clung to, and where were they taking you?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down three things you have called "mine." Pray over each one: Lord, this came from You, and I give it back to You.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 29:21)

DAY 2 OF 5

The Reed Staff

READ · EZEKIEL 29:6–7

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What happened to Israel's hands and loins when they took hold of Egypt and leaned on it (v7)?

REFLECT

Name one reed staff you have leaned on — a substance, a person, a hustle. How did it look strong before it broke (v6)?

REFLECT

What wounds did it leave when it splintered (v7), and what would leaning your full weight on God look like this week?

RESPOND — TODAY

Tell one trusted brother about a reed staff you are still tempted to grab, and ask him to check on you before the week is out.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 29:21)

DAY 3 OF 5

When the Land Goes Empty

READ · EZEKIEL 29:8–12

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What reason does God give for bringing the sword on Egypt, and how far does the desolation reach (vv9–10)?

REFLECT

Pharaoh's pride emptied a whole land (vv8–12). How has one man's pride — maybe your own — brought harm on the people around him?

REFLECT

What does it tell you about God that the river Pharaoh boasted in could not protect his land once God was against him (v10)?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pray by name for the people your choices have hurt, and ask God to show you one step toward making something right.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 29:21)

DAY 4 OF 5

Mercy That Removes a Snare

READ · EZEKIEL 29:13–16

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What does God promise Egypt at the end of forty years, and what will Egypt never again be to Israel (vv13–16)?

REFLECT

God made Egypt small so Israel would stop running to it (vv15–16). What has He made smaller in your life, and how might that be mercy?

REFLECT

Egypt kept bringing Israel's iniquity to mind (v16). What old refuge still pulls your thoughts back toward old sin?

RESPOND — TODAY

Remove one reminder of your old 'Egypt' today — a number, an app, a route you drive — and ask God to be your only refuge.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 29:21)

DAY 5 OF 5

Wages and a Sprouting Horn

READ · EZEKIEL 29:17–21

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did Nebuchadnezzar's army get from Tyre, and what did God give them instead, and why (vv18–20)?

REFLECT

God paid even a pagan army for work it did for Him (v20). Where does your labor for God feel unpaid, and how does this verse speak to that?

REFLECT

Where do you need God to "make a horn sprout" — new strength growing out of what looks dead (v21)?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pray Ezekiel 29:21 over yourself and over one man you are walking with, by name.

❒ READ IT ❒ PRAYED IT ❒ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 29:21)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

Pharaoh's boast was about ownership, not only worship (v3). How does the claim 'I made this' show up among men in recovery or behind the walls?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

Israel kept going back to Egypt even though it broke in their hands (vv6–7, 16). Why do we return to the same broken supports, and what has helped you break that pattern?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

Ezekiel waited years before his words were proven and his mouth was opened (v21). What does faithful waiting look like for us in this season?

MY PRAYER

Lord GOD, You made every river and You never break when I lean on You, so today I hand You…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · EZEKIEL 29:21

"On that day I will make a horn sprout for the house of Israel, and I will open your mouth in their midst. Then they will know that I am the LORD."