SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Ezekiel

Chapter 36

A New Heart for His Name's Sake

MEMORY VERSE · EZEKIEL 36:26

"Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh."

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Ezekiel 36

This week God holds out the promise every man who has ever said 'I can't change' needs to hear: He will wash you, give you a new heart, and put His own Spirit inside you. He doesn't do it because you earned it. He does it for His name — and that means no man is too far gone.

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

When the Enemy Says "Aha!"

READ · EZEKIEL 36:1–7

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did the enemy say about the mountains of Israel in verse 2, and what does God say will happen to the nations that insulted them (v7)?

REFLECT

What voices have mocked the ruined places in your life — other people, or your own thoughts (vv2–3)?

REFLECT

How does it help to know God speaks "in the fire of My jealousy" over what belongs to Him (v5)?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down one mocking thing you have believed about your life. Next to it, write verse 9: "behold, I am for you."

❐ READ IT ❐ PRAYED IT ❐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 36:26)

DAY 2 OF 5

Better Than at the First

READ · EZEKIEL 36:8–15

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

List what God promises the mountains in verses 8–11. What old name for the land does He take away in verses 13–14?

REFLECT

What part of your life has felt like "a devourer of men" (v13) — a place, habit, or season that took more than it gave?

REFLECT

What would it look like for God to "treat you better than at the first" (v11) in an area you have given up on?

RESPOND — TODAY

Thank God for one ruined place He has already begun to rebuild in you, and ask Him to keep going.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 36:26)

DAY 3 OF 5

His Name on My Life

READ · EZEKIEL 36:16–23

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

According to verse 20, what did the nations say about Israel, and why did God act in verses 21–22?

REFLECT

Who watches your life and draws conclusions about Jesus from it — family, cellmates, coworkers (v20)?

REFLECT

Why is it freeing that God says "It is not for your sake" but "for My holy name" (v22)?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pick one place this week where you can honor His name by how you act. Do it on purpose, and quietly.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 36:26)

DAY 4 OF 5

The Heart Transplant

READ · EZEKIEL 36:24–28

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Write out every "I will" God says in verses 24–28, in order.

REFLECT

Where is your heart still stone — toward God, toward your family, toward people who need you (v26)?

REFLECT

What is the difference between trying hard to change and having God's Spirit within you, causing you to walk in His ways (v27)?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pray verse 26 back to God with your own name in it. Ask Him to finish the transplant where your heart is still hard.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 36:26)

DAY 5 OF 5

Ask Him

READ · EZEKIEL 36:29–38

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What will God's people remember and feel in verse 31, and what does God say He will let them ask Him to do in verse 37?

REFLECT

How can a man be honestly ashamed of his past (vv31–32) without sinking back into condemnation, since Christ has washed him?

REFLECT

What promise from this chapter do you most need to bring back to God and ask Him to do (v37)?

RESPOND — TODAY

Take one promise from verses 25–27 and pray it out loud for yourself and for one other man by name.

❐ READ IT ❐ PRAYED IT ❐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 36:26)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

What is the difference between changing from the outside in and being changed from the inside out (36:26–27)?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

How should knowing that God acts for His name, not our record, change the way we treat men who keep falling (36:22, 32)?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

What ruined places in our community or families are we asking God to make like Eden (36:35–37)?

MY PRAYER

Lord GOD, I can't change my own heart, so for Your name's sake take out the stone in me where …

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · EZEKIEL 36:26

"Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh."