SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Ezekiel

Chapter 40

A New Temple Measured Out

MEMORY VERSE · EZEKIEL 40:4

"Son of man, see with your eyes, hear with your ears, and give attention to all that I am going to show you; for you have been brought here in order to show it to you. Declare to the house of Israel all that you see."

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Ezekiel 40

This week's chapter reads like a builder's plans, and you may be tempted to skim it. Don't. Fourteen years after the temple burned, God showed Ezekiel a new one and measured every gate and step, because He was claiming it as His own. Ask Him to slow you down, open your eyes, and lay His measuring rod on your life.

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

See, Hear, Give Attention

READ · EZEKIEL 40:1–4

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

When did this vision come (v1), and what four things does the man tell Ezekiel to do in verse 4?

REFLECT

Ezekiel had lived fourteen years with the city in ruins before this vision came (v1). What ruin in your life have you been waiting on God to rebuild, and how have you handled the wait?

REFLECT

The guide said, "see with your eyes, hear with your ears, and give attention" (v4). What usually keeps you from paying real attention when you read the Bible?

RESPOND — TODAY

Read verse 4 slowly, then read it again and write down one detail you missed the first time.

❒ READ IT ❒ PRAYED IT ❒ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 40:4)

DAY 2 OF 5

The Measuring Rod

READ · EZEKIEL 40:5–16

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Which gate does the tour begin with (v6), and list everything the man measures in verses 5–16.

REFLECT

Measuring something was a way of claiming it. What part of your life would you rather God not measure — and why?

REFLECT

The tour begins at the east gate (v6), the direction God's glory had left (11:23). How does it encourage you that God starts rebuilding at the very place where things went wrong?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pray, 'Lord, this is Yours — build here,' and name one specific area of your life you are handing over to Him.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 40:4)

DAY 3 OF 5

Room in the Courts

READ · EZEKIEL 40:17–27

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

How many chambers face the pavement (v17), and how are the north and south gates like the east gate (vv20–27)?

REFLECT

Every gate was built to the same measure — no shortcut and no back door. Where have you been looking for a shortcut into God's favor instead of the way He provides?

REFLECT

God made a wide court with room for His people to gather. Who could you invite into the place where you worship and grow?

RESPOND — TODAY

Invite one man to join you at your group, your church or your study this week.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 40:4)

DAY 4 OF 5

Eight Steps Up

READ · EZEKIEL 40:28–37

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

How many steps lead up to the outer gates (v22), and how many to the inner gates (vv31, 34, 37)?

REFLECT

The nearer to the altar, the higher the steps. What does that teach you about how seriously God takes His holiness?

REFLECT

The steps were there to be climbed, not to keep people out. What step toward God is in front of you right now, and what is holding you back from taking it?

RESPOND — TODAY

Take one concrete step closer to God today — a set time of prayer, a call to a mentor, or a confession you have put off.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 40:4)

DAY 5 OF 5

The Altar and the Sons of Zadok

READ · EZEKIEL 40:38–49

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What are the tables by the gate used for (vv38–43), and who are the priests allowed to come near to the LORD (v46)?

REFLECT

At the center of the inner court stands the altar (v47). How does the cross of Jesus sit at the center of your life — or where has something else moved into the middle?

REFLECT

The sons of Zadok "come near to the LORD to minister to Him" (v46) — near first, then service. Which comes first in your life right now, and what would it look like to reverse the order if needed?

RESPOND — TODAY

Before you serve anyone today, spend ten minutes simply coming near to the LORD in prayer and the Word.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 40:4)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

Which detail in this chapter surprised you most once you slowed down to notice it?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

How do we help one another stay faithful, like the sons of Zadok, when the people around us drift?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

What ruins in our lives or our community do we need to trust God is already planning to rebuild?

MY PRAYER

Lord God, open my eyes to see and my ears to hear, and lay Your measuring rod on…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · EZEKIEL 40:4

"Son of man, see with your eyes, hear with your ears, and give attention to all that I am going to show you; for you have been brought here in order to show it to you. Declare to the house of Israel all that you see."