SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Ezekiel

Chapter 43

The Glory Comes Home

MEMORY VERSE · EZEKIEL 43:27

"When they have completed the days, it shall be that on the eighth day and onward, the priests shall offer your burnt offerings on the altar, and your peace offerings; and I will accept you,' declares the Lord GOD."

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Ezekiel 43

This week the glory of God comes home to His house, and the last words of the chapter are “I will accept you.” God wants to fill my life with His presence, and He has made a way through the blood for a man who thought he was too far gone. Come home honestly, and let Him say it over you.

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 Glory Comes Home

READ · EZEKIEL 43:1–5

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Which direction did the glory come from, what did His voice sound like, and what did Ezekiel do (vv2–3)?

REFLECT

The glory came back by the same gate it left by (v4; 10:19). Is there a place in my life where I sensed God's presence leave, and what would it mean for Him to come back there?

REFLECT

Ezekiel fell on his face before he said anything (v3). When was the last time I simply worshiped God before asking Him for anything?

RESPOND — TODAY

Begin today's prayer on your knees or face down, and spend the first few minutes only praising God for who He is.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 43:27)

DAY 2 OF 5

Only a Wall Between

READ · EZEKIEL 43:6–9

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did God call His house (v7), and what had the kings built right next to it (v8)?

REFLECT

Judah's kings lived with “only the wall between Me and them” (v8). What have I built right up against my worship and tried to call it all holy?

REFLECT

God says, “Now let them put away their harlotry” (v9). What does ‘far from Me’ mean for the things I need to put away, the numbers, the places, the old crowd?

RESPOND — TODAY

Remove one thing this week that keeps your own kingdom too close to God's house, and tell someone you did it.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 43:27)

DAY 3 OF 5

Ashamed by Grace

READ · EZEKIEL 43:10–12

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Why was Ezekiel to describe the temple to Israel (v10), and what is the law of the house (v12)?

REFLECT

God showed Israel His good plan so they would be ashamed of their sin (v10). How has seeing God's kindness, more than His anger, moved me to change?

REFLECT

The whole mountaintop was most holy (v12), not just one room. Which rooms of my life have I kept out of God's holiness?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down one way God has been good to you that you did not deserve, and thank Him for it out loud.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 43:27)

DAY 4 OF 5

The Altar at the Center

READ · EZEKIEL 43:13–17

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What rose from the altar hearth (v15), how large was the hearth (v16), and which way did the steps face (v17)?

REFLECT

Right after the glory comes back, God measures an altar. Why does the holy God need an altar at the center of His house before sinners can come near?

REFLECT

The horns of the altar were a place of atonement and refuge. What would it look like for me to run to the cross and take hold today?

RESPOND — TODAY

Read Hebrews 10:10–14 and thank Jesus that His one sacrifice is enough for you.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 43:27)

DAY 5 OF 5

I Will Accept You

READ · EZEKIEL 43:18–27

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Where was the blood put (v20), how many days did the cleansing last (v26), and what did God say on the eighth day (v27)?

REFLECT

The cleansing came first and the acceptance followed (vv20, 27). Do I believe God accepts me because the blood of Christ has been applied, or am I still trying to clean myself up first?

REFLECT

Who do I know, maybe a man just out of prison or back from a relapse, who needs to hear God say, "I will accept you" (v27)?

RESPOND — TODAY

Call or write to one man this week and tell him plainly that in Christ, God accepts him.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 43:27)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

Guzik notes the glory left slowly but filled the house at once (43:2–5). What does that tell you about God's heart toward His people?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

What does it look like in daily life to put idols 'far from' God, not just a wall away (43:8–9)?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

Why do you think the chapter ends with 'I will accept you' (43:27) rather than with the rules, and how have you experienced that acceptance?

MY PRAYER

Lord GOD, fill my life with Your glory the way You filled Your house, and show me what I've kept too close to You, so I can…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · EZEKIEL 43:27

"When they have completed the days, it shall be that on the eighth day and onward, the priests shall offer your burnt offerings on the altar, and your peace offerings; and I will accept you,' declares the Lord GOD."