SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Ezekiel

Chapter 45

Holy Land, Honest Rulers

MEMORY VERSE · EZEKIEL 45:20

"Thus you shall do on the seventh day of the month for everyone who goes astray or is naive; so you shall make atonement for the house."

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Ezekiel 45

This week God starts at the center of your life and works outward — your worship, your home, your work, your wallet. He asks for the first portion, an honest scale and a heart that leads by giving. And for every man who wandered or was led astray, He has already made a way to be covered.

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 LORD's Portion First

READ · EZEKIEL 45:1–8

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Before any tribe receives land, what is set apart first, and what sits in the middle of it (vv1–3)?

REFLECT

God gave the prince his own land "so My princes shall no longer oppress My people" (v8). How does having enough protect a man from taking what is not his?

REFLECT

What would it look like for God's portion to come off the top of your week — your time, your money, your attention (v1)?

RESPOND — TODAY

Before you spend anything today — an hour or a dollar — set the first part aside for God, and tell Him why.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 45:20)

DAY 2 OF 5

Enough

READ · EZEKIEL 45:9–12

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

List the things God tells the princes to put away and the things He tells them to practice (v9).

REFLECT

God says "Enough" to leaders who were already doing wrong (v9). Where might He be saying "Enough" to you right now?

REFLECT

God names the ephah, the bath and the shekel (vv10–12). Where in your money, work or word is your scale a little off?

RESPOND — TODAY

Make one thing right today — a debt, an exaggeration, a corner you cut — and do it quietly, because God sees the scale.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 45:20)

DAY 3 OF 5

The People Give, the Prince Provides

READ · EZEKIEL 45:13–17

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What does every person bring, and what does the prince do with it (vv13–17)?

REFLECT

The people give to the prince; the prince gives for the people (vv16–17). Where has God given you something so that you would pass it on?

REFLECT

Who is under your care — children, a wife, men in your unit or your group — and how are you turning what you receive into blessing for them?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pick one person who depends on you and give him or her something today that costs you: time, help, or a word of encouragement.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 45:20)

DAY 4 OF 5

Cover for the Wanderer

READ · EZEKIEL 45:18–20

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Where does the priest put the blood, and for whom is the seventh-day rite done (vv19–20)?

REFLECT

The cleansing is for the one who "goes astray or is naive" (v20). Where in your story were you led into sin before you knew what you were doing?

REFLECT

God doesn't excuse the straying, but He covers it. How does that change the way you carry your past?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down one part of your past you still carry, then thank Jesus by name that His blood covers it.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 45:20)

DAY 5 OF 5

Passover Remains

READ · EZEKIEL 45:21–25

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Which feasts are kept, in which months, and for how many days (vv21–25)?

REFLECT

The prince brings a sin offering for himself and all the people (v22). What does it say that even the ruler needs covering?

REFLECT

Passover remembers rescue by the blood of a lamb (v21). How has Jesus, our Passover, brought you out of your own Egypt?

RESPOND — TODAY

Tell one man this week the story of how God brought you out, and point him to the Lamb who did it.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 45:20)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

Why do you think God cares about weights and measures in the same chapter as the sanctuary and the feasts (vv3, 10)?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

What is the difference between a leader who takes and a leader who provides, and which have you been (vv8, 17)?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

How does the provision for the man who "goes astray or is naive" speak to men in our group who are starting over (v20)?

MY PRAYER

Lord GOD, take the first and best of my life as holy to You, and make my scale honest where…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · EZEKIEL 45:20

"Thus you shall do on the seventh day of the month for everyone who goes astray or is naive; so you shall make atonement for the house."