SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Ezekiel

Chapter 5

This Is Jerusalem: Judgment Weighed to the Hair

MEMORY VERSE · EZEKIEL 5:3

"Take also a few in number from them and bind them in the edges of your robes."

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Ezekiel 5

This week God shows us a hard picture: a whole head of hair shaved off, weighed and scattered. But tucked into the hem of the prophet's robe are a few hairs God kept. Come to this chapter honestly about your own heart, and hold on to the God who keeps a remnant.

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

Weighed to the Hair

READ · EZEKIEL 5:1–4

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What three things happen to the three thirds of the hair, and what happens to the few hairs Ezekiel keeps (vv2–4)?

REFLECT

Ezekiel was a priest, and shaving disgraced him in front of everyone (v1). What has obeying God cost you, or what might it cost you, in front of other people?

REFLECT

The hair is weighed on scales before anything else happens (v1). How does it change the way you see hard seasons to know God measures them exactly?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down one hard thing in your life right now, and pray over it: 'Lord, You have weighed this. Help me trust You in it.'

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 5:3)

DAY 2 OF 5

This Is Jerusalem

READ · EZEKIEL 5:5–7

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Where did God set Jerusalem (v5), and what does verse 7 say she failed to keep, even compared with the nations around her?

REFLECT

Jerusalem had the Law and the temple and still did worse than the nations (v6). What spiritual advantages have you had: a praying mother, church, a Bible, a group of brothers?

REFLECT

Their sin was not that they did not know, but that "they have rejected My ordinances" (v6). What is one thing you already know God has told you that you have not done?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pick that one thing you already know, and do it today. Tell one brother what it was.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 5:3)

DAY 3 OF 5

God Against Us

READ · EZEKIEL 5:8–10

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What does God say He will do “in the sight of the nations” (v8), and how does He describe this judgment in verse 9?

REFLECT

“I, even I, am against you” (v8) is the most frightening sentence in the chapter. Why is God's opposition worse than any enemy's?

REFLECT

Verse 10 shows sin tearing families apart in the worst possible way. Where have you seen sin turn fathers and sons against each other, in your family or others?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pray for one father-and-son or parent-and-child relationship in your life that sin has damaged, by name.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 5:3)

DAY 4 OF 5

Idols in the Sanctuary

READ · EZEKIEL 5:11–12

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What reason does God give in verse 11 for His judgment, and how are the three thirds explained in verse 12?

REFLECT

God swears “as I live” (v11): the living God against dead idols. What 'dead' things have you looked to for life: a substance, a screen, approval, control?

REFLECT

If your body is now God's temple (1 Cor 6:19), what has been set up in the place that belongs to Him?

RESPOND — TODAY

Name one idol to God out loud today, and ask Him to clear it out of His house. Then tell someone you trust.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 5:3)

DAY 5 OF 5

The Lord Has Spoken

READ · EZEKIEL 5:13–17

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

How many times does the phrase “I, the LORD, have spoken” appear in verses 13–17, and what four judgments are listed in verse 17?

REFLECT

God speaks “in My zeal” (v13), a jealous love like a betrayed husband's. How does that change the way you hear His anger at sin?

REFLECT

Jerusalem became “a warning” to the nations (v15). The same holy zeal fell on Jesus at the cross for us. What does it mean to you that He took the fire you deserved?

RESPOND — TODAY

Thank Jesus specifically today for bearing God's judgment in your place, and write one sentence of that thanks in this journal.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 5:3)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

Which picture from this chapter stuck with you most this week: the razor, the scales, the fire, or the hem? Why that one?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

Where did you see yourself in Jerusalem this week: knowing more than you were living?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

What would it look like for our group to be "a few in number" bound together in the hem: men who keep each other close to God?

MY PRAYER

Lord GOD, I don't want to be a man who had everything and despised it, so search my heart and...

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · EZEKIEL 5:3

"Take also a few in number from them and bind them in the edges of your robes."