SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Ezekiel

Chapter 48

The LORD Is There: Every Tribe a Gate

MEMORY VERSE · EZEKIEL 48:35

“The city shall be 18,000 cubits round about; and the name of the city from that day shall be, ‘The LORD is there.’”

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Ezekiel 48

This is the last chapter of Ezekiel, and it ends with every tribe in its place, twelve gates open and a city named for God's presence. This week, let God put Himself back at the center of your life and show you there is a gate with your name on it. The book that began in exile ends with “The LORD is there” — and in Jesus, He is with you now.

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

A Place for Every Tribe

READ · EZEKIEL 48:1–7

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Which tribe is named first, and how is each tribe's land laid out (vv1–7)?

REFLECT

Dan, the first tribe to fall into idolatry, is named first and given "one portion" (v1). What does that tell you about how God treats a man with a bad record?

REFLECT

Each tribe is named, one by one (vv1–7). How does it feel to know God knows you by name, not as a number?

RESPOND — TODAY

Thank God by name for one specific thing He has given you that you did not earn.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 48:35)

DAY 2 OF 5

The Center and the Charge

READ · EZEKIEL 48:8–14

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What sits in the middle of the holy allotment, and why were the sons of Zadok given land there (vv8, 11)?

REFLECT

The sons of Zadok "did not go astray when the sons of Israel went astray" (v11). Where is the crowd around you drifting, and what would it cost you to stand firm?

REFLECT

The land holy to the LORD may not be sold or exchanged (v14). What is holy in your life that you have been tempted to trade?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down the one thing you will not trade this week — your sobriety, your word, your time with God — and tell a brother.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 48:35)

DAY 3 OF 5

A City for Everyone

READ · EZEKIEL 48:15–22

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Who works the land around the city, and whose land frames the holy district on either side (vv19, 21)?

REFLECT

The workers come "out of all the tribes of Israel" (v19). How does your group or unit make room for men from every background?

REFLECT

The prince is given his own land so he will not take from others (vv21–22). Where would having enough free you from grabbing?

RESPOND — TODAY

Do one piece of honest work today as an offering to God, whether anyone notices it or not.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 48:35)

DAY 4 OF 5

The Last Tribe Too

READ · EZEKIEL 48:23–29

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Which five tribes lie south of the holy district, and how is the land divided (vv23–29)?

REFLECT

The land is divided “by lot” as an inheritance (v29) — God's choosing, not man's grabbing. Where are you trying to grab what God has promised to give?

REFLECT

Gad, at the far southern edge, gets a portion as surely as Judah next to the sanctuary (vv27–28). When do you feel far from the center, and what does this say to you?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pray for a man who feels far from God's center, and reach out to him this week.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 48:35)

DAY 5 OF 5

The LORD Is There

READ · EZEKIEL 48:30–35

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

How many gates does the city have, whose names do they bear, and what is the city's name (vv31–35)?

REFLECT

Even Dan has a gate (v32). Which gate has God opened for you, even with your story?

REFLECT

The city's name is "The LORD is there" (v35). Where do you most need to know God is present right now — a cell, a ward, an empty apartment, a hard marriage?

RESPOND — TODAY

Each time you walk through a doorway today, pray: "The LORD is there."

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (EZEKIEL 48:35)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

Why do you think Ezekiel's book ends with a city's name instead of a battle or a king (v35)?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

What does it mean that the sanctuary sits in the middle of all the tribes, and how can we put God at the center of a week (v8)?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

How do the twelve gates, including Dan's, speak to the men God might be sending to our group (vv31–34)?

MY PRAYER

Lord GOD, You are the center of everything — be at the center of my life, especially…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · EZEKIEL 48:35

"The city shall be 18,000 cubits round about; and the name of the city from that day shall be, 'The LORD is there.'"