SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Revelation

Chapter 10

The Little Book: Sweet and Bitter

MEMORY VERSE · REVELATION 10:10

"I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it, and in my mouth it was sweet as honey; and when I had eaten it, my stomach was made bitter."

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Revelation 10

This week God holds out His Word to you the way the angel held out the little book to John. He is not asking you to admire it from a distance; He is asking you to take it in, let it be sweet and let it be bitter, and then carry it to somebody else.

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 Revelation 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

Heaven Comes Down

READ · REVELATION 10:1–2

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

List everything John notices about the strong angel in verses 1–2 — what he wears, what is over his head, his face, his feet, what is in his hand, and where he stands.

REFLECT

The rainbow over his head recalls God's promise after the flood (v1). Where do you need to remember that God's mercy is still in the picture, even in a hard season?

REFLECT

He sets one foot on the sea and one on the land (v2). What part of your life have you been acting as if it sits outside God's claim?

RESPOND — TODAY

Name one area of your life — money, a relationship, a habit, your past — and tell God in plain words today that it belongs to Him.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (REVELATION 10:10)

DAY 2 OF 5

What God Keeps Sealed

READ · REVELATION 10:3–4

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did John hear in verse 3, what was he about to do in verse 4, and what exactly did the voice from heaven tell him?

REFLECT

Why do you think God let John hear the seven thunders and then told him not to write them down (v4)?

REFLECT

Which questions about God, the future or your own story do you chase harder than the plain commands He has already given you?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down one clear command of Jesus you already know and are not yet doing. Do it today before you go looking for anything new.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (REVELATION 10:10)

DAY 3 OF 5

Delay No Longer

READ · REVELATION 10:5–7

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

In verses 5–6, who does the angel swear by, and how is that One described? What does he swear will happen?

REFLECT

God has been patient, but the angel swears there "will be delay no longer" (v6). What have you been putting off with God because you assumed there would always be more time?

REFLECT

Verse 7 says "the mystery of God is finished." Which unanswered question in your life — about suffering, loss or wasted years — do you need to trust God to finish?

RESPOND — TODAY

Take care of the thing you have been telling God 'later' about — a call, a confession, an amends, a step toward church or your group.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (REVELATION 10:10)

DAY 4 OF 5

Take It and Eat It

READ · REVELATION 10:8–10

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Trace John's steps in verses 8–10. What was he told to do, what did he actually do, and how did the little book taste going down and after?

REFLECT

John had to go to the angel and ask for the book (v9). What does it look like for you to reach for God's Word instead of waiting for it to land on you?

REFLECT

When has God's Word been sweet to you and then bitter — comforting to read, but hard to live out or hard to tell someone else (v10)?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pick one short passage, read it slowly three times, and carry one line of it with you all day — on a card, in your pocket, or in your head.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (REVELATION 10:10)

DAY 5 OF 5

Prophesy Again

READ · REVELATION 10:11

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Who says “You must prophesy again” in verse 11, and to whom is John sent?

REFLECT

After the bitter taste, God still sends John back out (v11). How does it change things to know God does not retire a man just because the message is hard?

REFLECT

Who is the one person in your world right now who most needs to hear what Jesus has done for you?

RESPOND — TODAY

Tell that one person a piece of your story with Jesus this week — sweet parts and bitter parts — and pray for him by name tonight.

❒ READ IT ❒ PRAYED IT ❒ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (REVELATION 10:10)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

Looking back over the week, what part of God's Word was sweet to you, and what part sat bitter in your stomach (vv9–10)?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

How did the angel's oath that there will be "delay no longer" (v6) change the way you spent your time this week?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

What is the difference between being curious about God's secrets (v4) and being hungry for His Word (v9) — and which one has been driving you?

MY PRAYER

Lord, You hold out Your Word to me and ask me to take it in, so today I come hungry and ask You to...

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · REVELATION 10:10

"I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it, and in my mouth it was sweet as honey; and when I had eaten it, my stomach was made bitter."