SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Revelation

Chapter 16

The Seven Bowls of Wrath

MEMORY VERSE · REVELATION 16:15

"Behold, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes, so that he will not walk about naked and men will not see his shame."

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Revelation 16

This week Revelation 16 shows God's patience coming to its end — seven bowls, poured out fast and total. But right in the middle, Jesus stops to speak to you: stay awake, keep your clothes on. This chapter asks you to take grace seriously today, while it is still today.

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

Righteous Are Your Judgments

READ · REVELATION 16:1–7

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What do the first three bowls strike (vv2–4), and what do the angel of the waters and the altar say about God (vv5–7)?

REFLECT

The angel says those who poured out the blood of saints are given blood to drink (v6). What wrong done to you or to people you love do you want God to answer — and what does it mean to you that He keeps the books?

REFLECT

The altar calls God's judgments 'true and righteous' (v7). Which part of God's justice is hardest for you to call righteous, and why?

RESPOND — TODAY

Name one wrong done to you that you have been carrying. In prayer, hand it to God by name and leave the payback with Him (Romans 12:19).

❐ READ IT ❐ PRAYED IT ❐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (REVELATION 16:15)

DAY 2 OF 5

Pain Without Repentance

READ · REVELATION 16:8–11

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What happens to men under the fourth and fifth bowls, and what do they do instead of repenting (vv9, 11)?

REFLECT

These men knew exactly who had 'the power over these plagues' (v9) and still would not turn. What is the difference between hating what sin cost you and hating the sin itself?

REFLECT

Think of your own hardest season. Did it drive you toward God or into blaming Him — and what made the difference?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down one thing you have been sorry about mostly because of what it cost you. Ask Jesus for the kind of repentance that hates the thing itself, and thank Him that His grace can do what pain cannot.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (REVELATION 16:15)

DAY 3 OF 5

The Frogs and the Kings

READ · REVELATION 16:12–14

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Where do the three unclean spirits come from, and what do they go out to do (vv13–14)?

REFLECT

The spirits come out of mouths and perform signs to deceive (vv13–14). What voices — on a screen, in a cell block, at a job site — have been talking you toward a fight with God?

REFLECT

The kings think they are marching for their own reasons, but they are gathered for 'the war of the great day of God, the Almighty' (v14). Where do you need to remember that God is in charge of what looks out of control?

RESPOND — TODAY

Guard your ears and your mouth today: turn off one voice that feeds you lies, and speak one true, clean word of encouragement to another man.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (REVELATION 16:15)

DAY 4 OF 5

Stay Awake, Keep Your Clothes

READ · REVELATION 16:15–16

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

In the middle of the armies gathering at Har-Magedon (v16), what does Jesus say about Himself, and whom does He call blessed (v15)?

REFLECT

Jesus interrupts the war report to talk about your clothes (v15). What would 'staying awake' look like in your late nights, lonely hours and old places?

REFLECT

Walking about naked means being exposed in shame (v15). Where has something left you spiritually exposed, and what would it look like to put on Christ's righteousness there?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pick the hour of the day when you are most likely to fall. Plan one concrete guard for it tonight — a phone call, a different place, a prayer said out loud.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (REVELATION 16:15)

DAY 5 OF 5

It Is Done

READ · REVELATION 16:17–21

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What does the loud voice from the throne say (v17), and what happens to the great city, to Babylon and to the earth (vv18–21)?

REFLECT

Even under hundred-pound hailstones, men blaspheme God (v21). Why do you think grace can reach a heart that judgment cannot?

REFLECT

Babylon is given 'the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath' (v19). Jesus drank that cup for you at the cross and said, 'It is finished' (John 19:30). How does that change the way you look at your worst failures?

RESPOND — TODAY

Thank Jesus out loud for drinking the cup you deserved. Then name one person who needs to hear about grace before the bowls fall, and pray for an open door this week.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (REVELATION 16:15)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

Babylon the great was 'remembered before God' (v19). How is it comforting — and sobering — that God forgets nothing?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

The bowls strike everything the trumpets touched only a third of. What does that escalation tell you about how long God waits before He acts, and what is He waiting for?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

What one step will you say out loud to this group to share Christ with someone this week, so we can pray and hold you to it?

MY PRAYER

Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments — thank You that Jesus drank the cup I deserved, and keep me awake today by...

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · REVELATION 16:15

"Behold, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes, so that he will not walk about naked and men will not see his shame."