SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Revelation

Chapter 3

Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea: I Stand at the Door

MEMORY VERSE · REVELATION 3:8

"I know your deeds. Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut, because you have a little power, and have kept My word, and have not denied My name."

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Revelation 3

Three churches: one with a big reputation and a dead heart, one with little strength and an open door, and one so comfortable it left Jesus outside. This week, ask Him honestly which one sounds like you — and then hear Him knock.

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

Sardis: Wake Up

READ · REVELATION 3:1–6

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What reputation did Sardis have, and what did Jesus actually see (3:1)? List the commands in verses 2–3.

REFLECT

Sardis had "a name that you are alive, but you are dead" (3:1). Where might your reputation with others be better than your real walk with Jesus?

REFLECT

Jesus said to "strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die" (3:2). What in your walk with Him is still breathing but weak — and what would strengthening it look like this week?

RESPOND — TODAY

Choose one weak area — prayer, the Word, a friendship with a believer — and give it fifteen focused minutes today.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (REVELATION 3:8)

DAY 2 OF 5

Philadelphia: The Open Door

READ · REVELATION 3:7–10

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

How does Jesus describe Himself in verse 7, and what three things did Philadelphia do with their "little power" (3:8)?

REFLECT

Jesus did not scold Philadelphia for having little power (3:8). Where do you feel weak or disqualified, and what does it mean that Jesus holds the key that opens doors no one can shut?

REFLECT

Jesus promised to keep them "from the hour of testing" (3:10). How does His promise to keep His people affect the way you face fear about the future?

RESPOND — TODAY

Ask Jesus to show you one open door — a person to help, a conversation to have, a step to take — and walk through it today.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (REVELATION 3:8)

DAY 3 OF 5

Hold Fast What You Have

READ · REVELATION 3:11–13

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What does Jesus tell Philadelphia to do in verse 11, and what does He promise to write on the overcomer in verse 12?

REFLECT

Jesus says, "hold fast what you have, so that no one will take your crown" (3:11). What or who is most likely to pull you away from finishing well — and could it be you?

REFLECT

In an earthquake city where people kept fleeing, Jesus promised a pillar that "will not go out from it anymore" (3:12). What in your life keeps making you run, and what would it mean to belong somewhere for good?

RESPOND — TODAY

Tell one trusted brother what tends to pull you away, and ask him to check on you this week.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (REVELATION 3:8)

DAY 4 OF 5

Laodicea: Need Nothing?

READ · REVELATION 3:14–18

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did Laodicea say about itself, and what did Jesus say they really were (3:17)?

REFLECT

Laodicea said they "have need of nothing" and did not know they were poor, blind and naked (3:17). Where have you quietly stopped needing Jesus because things are going fine?

REFLECT

Jesus counsels them to buy from Him gold, white garments, and eye salve (3:18). Which of those three do you most need from Him right now, and why?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pray, 'Lord, anoint my eyes so that I may see,' and write down one thing He shows you about yourself.

❒ READ IT ❒ PRAYED IT ❒ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (REVELATION 3:8)

DAY 5 OF 5

I Stand at the Door

READ · REVELATION 3:19–22

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Why does Jesus say He reproves and disciplines (3:19), and what does He promise to the one who opens the door (3:20)?

REFLECT

"Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline" (3:19). How have you seen God's correction in your life as love rather than rejection?

REFLECT

Jesus stands at the door and knocks, wanting to come in and eat with you (3:20). What would it look like this week to open the door to Him in an area you have kept Him out of?

RESPOND — TODAY

Set aside time today to sit with Jesus over a meal or a cup of coffee — just you and Him — and talk to Him like a friend at your table.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (REVELATION 3:8)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea are three very different conditions (3:1, 8, 17). Which one best describes where you are right now, and what is Jesus saying to you through it?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

Philadelphia had little power but kept His word and did not deny His name (3:8). How can we encourage the men in our group who feel weak to stay faithful?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

The highest promise of all seven letters goes to the lukewarm church if they repent: to sit with Jesus on His throne (3:21). What does that tell us about how far His grace will reach?

MY PRAYER

Lord Jesus, I hear You knocking, and I open the door to You in…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · REVELATION 3:8

"I know your deeds. Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut, because you have a little power, and have kept My word, and have not denied My name."