

# Revealed Journal

Journal pages are where you will summarize, observe, and outline your passage for study. You will collect your research for LIFE and unpack *What is Revealed* in the passage. Then you are ready to LIVE in light of God's revelation.

## Instructions

**I: Revealed Passage** - At the top of the page, write the book, chapter, and verses of your selected verses for study.

**II: Verse Summaries** - Summarize each verse in your Revealed Passage by re-writing the passage into shorter phrases. You are recording key words and information. Keep it simple, aiming to have less statements than verses. This step is essential to observing and outlining the passage.

**III: Observations and Questions** - Jot down observations and questions as you go. Use the list below to guide you. Fill it up, color code it, scribble away!

### Observe

- Characters: descriptions, details, behaviors, attitudes
- Actions and responses
- Words that are repeated or emphasized
- Comparisons and contrasts
- Cause and effect: *therefore, since, and if-then* type statements
- Figures of speech: simile, metaphor, idiom, hyperbole, etc.
- Questions and answer
- Dialogue: who is talking to whom
- Emotion or tone
- Confusing words, phrases, or actions

**IV: Revealed Outline.** Condense your verse summaries into 3-5 main points to create an outline of the Revealed Passage.

**V: One Sentence:** Use your Revealed Outline to craft one sentence that encapsulates your Revealed Passage. This one sentence is a summary of the whole passage and should be recognizable to the original author and audience. Be specific when you can, by using the author's name, main characters, or identifying events.

Revealed Passage: Titus 1:1-16

<p>Observations &amp; Questions</p> <p>promise manifested = obligation to Gentiles</p> <p>III.</p> <p>hope of eternal life for Jew + Greek</p> <p>What was lacking? (elder- overseer- bishop)</p> <p>v 5-9 Pick what v10-14 Avoid what</p> <p>idle talker? deceiver?</p> <p>rebuke → healthy shame that restores</p> <p>understanding reasoning discerning</p> <p>holy living obey- subordinate fit for good works</p>	<p>Verse Summary - II.</p> <p>v 1 Paul, bondservant + apostle because of God's elect's faith + trust in truth that leads to godliness v 2 in hope of eternal life from a trustworthy God who promised v 3 and revealed His work through preaching which Paul does as obedience to Christ v 4 To Titus - true son in our common faith: grace, mercy, peace v 5 Reason → fit in order things lacking! 4 appoint (elder) → v 6 (overseer) one wife, faithful children, v 7 overseer → stern, not self-willed, gentle, temperate, blameless, sober, but v 8 hospitable, so good, sensible, minimalist, just, holy, self-controlled, v 9 holds fast to truth to rebuke + correct v 10-11 Stop the mouths of deceiving rebels from the circumcisers who subvert houses for the v 12. Their own prophets call them (Jews), beasts, + lazy. v 13 This is true → so rebuke them so they may become sound v 14 not heeding fables or commands from men about truth v 15 To the pure → all pure to defiled → nothing pure even mind of conscience defiled v 16 They profess to know God, but in works deny Him = disqualified for every good work.</p>
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Revealed Passage Outline

I - v 1-4: Paul to Titus, opening greeting and hope -

II - v 5-8: Purpose to set up overseers that are pure, i.e., holding fast to truth.

III - v 9-16: Stop the mouths of unpure, rebellious, deniers of truth so the church is ready for good works.

One Sentence

Titus is to appoint elders who are pure and hold to truth

## ...continued

**VI: Revealing LIFE:** It's time to work toward a solid interpretation guided by the hermeneutical principals of LIFE.

**L - Let the original author speak to the original audience.** These ancient texts were not written TO us.

They were written FOR us but must always be read and understood from their original historical and cultural context- author and audience. What does the text reveal of the author? What does the text reveal about the audience? What is taking place in history? What do we know from other sources and archeology about that time, place, and people? What were their values, worldviews, and cultural distinctions? All these questions help us *let the original author speak to the original audience*.

**I - Investigate words and sentences within paragraphs.** The authors of all 66 books of the Bible used regular communication methods for their day. To interpret ordinary written communication, we want to understand the smallest literary unit that holds meaning in that text. We know that the words we use change meaning, tone, and intention based on their literary context, words within sentences, sentences within paragraphs, and paragraphs within essays. Our outline aids us greatly here as we *investigate words and sentences within their communicated context*.

**F - Fill in gaps from outside sources.** The world of the ancient Near East is very different from today. From customs and cultural practices to the common imagery used in the biblical texts, we need to fill in the gaps between then and now. Using outside resources, we can uncover and overcome these differences. The information available to us today provides a wealth of scholars, experts, and research at our fingertips. Refer to the resources listed in the back to *fill in the gaps from outside sources*.

**E- Explore the bigger picture and similar passages.** There are over 40 biblical authors, writing over 1500 years, so consider your passage with the whole counsel of God's revelation in view. This last guiding principal asks us to compare parallel passages and the rest of the biblical context. What has gone before and what comes after this text? Where else is this theme or message presented? Are there other passages that affirm or explain this passage? Asking these questions helps us to *explore the bigger picture*.

The high calling of holiness in the church → to set in order and acknowledge the truths which accord with godliness

**VI.**  
deceivers - Goyers were liars & see own prophets\* and Greek myths gods were deceivers & liars, tricksters. the likely was that gods played intentional tricks & had to be outsmarted to be rewarded.  
one wife - possible restriction from divorced or w/ concubines: 218 pg 502 Rome / Chinese NOT polygamists but only married women could commit adultery  
myths & fables - both Greek & Jewish that were creations of man vs Gods revealed truth, promise to be trusted  
idle talker - utters empty, useless things, mischievous  
defiled = polluted / stained  
unbelieving = unfaithful  
quick temper = bitter, simmering anger  
violent = aggressive speech  
[Hold Firm] (Pure) is like good fruit - purity can't come from surface no matter how it looks - God knows the heart!

**LIVE**  
Where does my life need "set in order"?  
What needs prayer to heal or function properly?  
Yikes! qualifications are overwhelming  
Am I self-willed or self-controlled?  
bitter or sober-minded?  
greedy or hospitable?  
Father God, I acknowledge the truth that accords w/ godliness. I need the truth of who I am and who you are. I hold firm to you & your truth to empower a pure life. Purify my heart, my actions. In humility, I need you. I desire to serve. Amen  
2<sup>nd</sup> Refiner's Fire 2<sup>nd</sup> - Holy, set apart

## ...continued

**VII: What is Revealed?** Now that you have followed L I F E through your passage, ask yourself what theological principal or truth is revealed in this passage. What truth reaches out of their day into ours? The Bible speaks to both a specific place and time in history AND holds eternal relevance and truth for today. This lasting truth or principal will be what you aim to L I V E through application. What is revealed about God? Humanity? Salvation? Creation? Etc. Write your Revealed statement in this section and flip to the back *What was Revealed* pages to keep a running collection of truths from your study.

**VIII: L I V E Revealed:** We have done a lot of work to get to this point. We sought to be faithful to original intent of the passage and spent time in prayer and research to understand its implications for us today. The real work starts now. All of our efforts amount to nothing if we go on living unchanged lives. Every truth of Scripture confronts us and leaves us with a choice. The steps of L I V E are intentional ways we can respond to *What is Revealed*.

**L- Let the lesson linger.** Keep the conversation going with God even after you've closed your journal.

Look for connections in everyday life and chew on what is revealed. This act of going over and working every angle is what biblical meditation is all about. Fill your mind, feast on God's words, and let it soak into your heart. What am I going to do with this truth? Transformation takes time. This principal encourages us to look for connections, opportunities, and examples in our own lives and to put what is revealed on repeat. Don't rush on if it hasn't hit home. *Let the lesson linger.*

**I- Invite in community.** Whatever this might look like for you, don't neglect growing with other believers. Share with friends and family the passage you are studying and what you see being revealed. Ask others to share their thoughts and perspectives. Compare your journal with other teachings on that passage. Who could you share this lesson with? Do you need accountability or help? God has given us other believers to encourage, equip, challenge, and sharpen us. Where can you *invite in community*?

*What is Revealed?* The L.I.V.E. calling of holiness is the chief VII. set in order and acknowledge the truth which accords with godliness

LIFE  
deceivers - Creators were liars & see own prophets\* and Greek myths gods were deceivers & liars, tricksters - the theology was that gods played intentional tricks & had to be outsmarted to be rewarded  
one wife - possible restriction from divorced or w/ concubines? (1st pt 202 Rome/Greece NOT polygamous but only married women could commit adultery)  
myths & fables - both Greek & Jewish that were creations of man vs God's revealed truth, promise to be tested  
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VIII. litter or sober-minded? Grow these  
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Father God, I acknowledge the truth that accords w/ godliness. I need the truth of who I am and who you are. I hold firm to you & your truth to empower a pure life. Purify my heart, my actions. In humility, I need you. I desire to serve. Amen  
2. Refrain's Fire II<sup>1</sup>. Holy, set apart

## ...continued

**V- Voice the truth.** Say it out-loud. Pray and personalize the message. Speaking and hearing activate the brain differently than reading and sight alone. Be creative! Memorize a key verse from your passage, write your Revealed statement on a post-it note and plaster it around your house, recite these truths while you sit in traffic, write a poem, or sing a song. Ask God in prayer to help empower you and *voice the truth*.

**E- Enter into worship.** This is the only logical conclusion of our time with God in His word. Everything we have done up to this point has been preparing our minds and hearts to worship. Worship is active, our response to God's revelation. What is your response? How has your heart been led to praise, thanksgiving, obedience, song, or service? Where can you give generously today? What needs to be surrendered? Go on – *Enter into worship!*

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