# **Ready or Not, Here I Go**

Matt VanCleave March 24, 2023

### **REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS**

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will tell the last 10 percent when it needs to get told.
- I will listen in humble, repentant openness and seek to learn.
- I will ask a trusted friend to tell me the truth about me.
- I will pray and ask God to show me my blind spots.

## THIS WEEK'S SERMON RECAP

Welcome to week 3 of Blind Spots. Over the past few weeks, we've been talking about how we all have blind spots we can't see, that the truth about us is that we don't know the full truth about us. That means we need to speak the honest truth to each other if we're going to be able to grow.

Last week we talked about telling the last 10 percent to each other. We want to live in transparent openness with each other, and we want to speak the truth in love to each other, but a lot of times the truth is we don't quite feel ready to do that. It feels kind of daunting or intimidating. So this week we're going to look at the truth about being ready. This week will challenge us, and help us be formed by a God who calls us even when we may not feel ready.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. Last week we talked about the 10%, speaking the full truth in conversations even when it is uncomfortable. Did you have any moments in which you were able to speak that last 10%

2. What does speaking the full truth teach you about your relationship with others?

3. Sometimes it feels like we aren't ready for what God is calling us. Yet Matt adds that, "Life, opportunities, challenges, relationships, commitments, eventually aging, and ultimately death all kind of have a way of saying, "Ready or not, here I come. This is your moment. This is your one and only life." Tell a story of when you had to jump into something even when you didn't feel ready or prepared.

4. What did jumping in teach you? How did moving even when you weren't fully prepared shape you?

5. Matt reveals that, "the truth about you is, when it comes to being ready, you'll never be ready for the most important, most daunting parts of your life. The truth about Jesus is Jesus actually uses people who say, "Yes," even when they don't feel ready." What do you think about these two truths? How does knowing that God calls the unready form your thoughts about your faith?

6. Read together Matthew 28: 16-20. What stands out to you in these verses? What do these verses teach you about humans, what do they teach you about God?

7. The disciples, the eleven, represented a group who wasn't ready. In fact, eleven was a number that was incomplete, it lacked wholeness. So Jesus calling the eleven wasn't a coincidence. A theologian says, "The number 'eleven' limps; it is not perfect like twelve. The church that Jesus sends into the world is 'elevenish,' imperfect, fallible." Does this truth reshape the way you see the disciples? How does it shape your understanding of calling?

8. We may not be ready, but Jesus is ready. This means we may have to take risks, we may have to share, we may have to give, we may have to be

uncomfortable. What stalls you from answering the call of God this week?

9. What's one area in your life where you've been saying, "Not yet" to God where today you need to say, "Yes"?

10. How can you, as a small group, hold each other accountable to saying 'yes' this week?

11. Do you have any feedback recommendations for small group questions? Would you be interested in joining a team of writers who create small group guides? With feedback or interest email Kylie (kyliemccormick@blueoakschurch.org)

## **NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)**

- L will say "Yes" to God even though I don't feel ready.
- L will say "Yes" to God in an area I've been saying "Not yet."
- □ I will obey God even though it's risky.
- L will say "Yes" to God in the area of generosity.
- □ I will say "Yes" to volunteering at Blue Oaks.
- □ I will help someone take their next step toward God.
- I will be praying about who God wants me to invite to church on Easter Sunday.

#### **SCRIPTURE REFERENCES**

• Matthew 28:16-20

#### **Prayer Request(s)**