

Key Takeaway

Being ready doesn't mean being perfect or having everything figured out. Through preparation, receiving Jesus's transformative teaching, and being sent out in community, we discover that readiness comes not from our own adequacy but from God's equipping power. The Spirit dwells within us, making us temples ready to carry God's message into the world—not tomorrow, not when we're more prepared, but now.

Notes

Biblical Foundation

Supporting Scripture.

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road."

Luke 10:1-4

Paradoxical Truth.

"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body."

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Dig Deeper!

Here are additional texts that explore being ready through God's empowerment:

Psalm 133 – God's people together in unity

2 Corinthians 12:12 – Marks of a true apostle

Romans 5:1-5 – God's love poured out through the Holy Spirit.

Lutheran Lens

Pentecost: Your Body Is a Temple of the Spirit

At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples in a dramatic display of fire and wind, empowering them to speak the Gospel in languages they had never learned. This wasn't about the disciples finally becoming qualified or smart enough - it was about God's Spirit filling ordinary people and making them extraordinary witnesses. We are ready not because we've achieved spiritual perfection, but because God's Spirit has taken up residence in us. The temple isn't a building we visit - it's who we are.



/THE-CHOSEN



Week 6. "I am Ready"

The Chosen, Season 2, Episodes 8, Season 3 Episodes 1-2

Small Group Discussion

Receiving the Teaching

(S3, E1) – Matthew 5-7

I am ready... because Jesus's words transform and equip me.

- Words Spoken vs. Words Known:** Mother Mary observes that Matthew knows Jesus's words, but "now he's saying them." How does hearing Jesus's words directly (through Scripture, preaching, personal encounter) differ from just knowing them intellectually?
- Convicted to Action:** Matthew is moved by Jesus's teaching about making amends to seek reconciliation with his father. What teaching of Jesus has convicted you to take difficult but necessary action?
- Ready for Reconciliation:** How has the Gospel made you ready to repair broken relationships or seek forgiveness, even when it felt risky or uncomfortable?

Preparing the Teaching

(S2, E8) – Matthew 5-7

I am ready... to act on faith rather than waiting for perfect readiness.

- Behind the Scenes Service:** The disciples scout locations, build stages, and spread announcements while Jesus prepares his teaching. How has God used your "behind the scenes" work to prepare others for encountering Jesus? Why does preparatory work sometimes feel less important than "real" ministry?
- The "I'll Start Tomorrow" Trap:** The disciples could have kept preparing indefinitely, but Jesus set the date. What important steps have you delayed with "I'll start when I'm more ready" or "next year"? What would acting on faith despite feeling unprepared look like?
- Fear of Imperfect Results:** The disciples argue and disagree while preparing for the sermon, yet Jesus uses their efforts. How does fear of not doing something perfectly prevent you from taking steps toward calling or witness?

PERSONAL CHALLENGE

Identify one relationship where Jesus's teaching about love, forgiveness, or reconciliation is calling you to action.
Take one concrete step toward healing this week.

CHURCH CHALLENGE

Jesus creates unlikely pairs like Matthew and Simon the Zealot. How can our church create ministry partnerships that stretch people and demonstrate God's power to unite different personalities for kingdom work?

Sent Out Ready

(S3, E2) – Luke 10:1-4

I am ready... to trust God's power working through me.

- Divine Authority:** Jesus gives the disciples authority and power even though they feel inadequate. How does our church help people recognize the spiritual authority they have as Spirit-filled followers of Jesus?
- Partnership Ministry:** Jesus sends them out "two by two" rather than alone. How does our church structure ministry to provide mutual support rather than leaving people to serve in isolation?
- Travel Light:** Jesus instructs them to take almost nothing, relying on God's provision. What "excess baggage" (methods, resources, strategies) might our church need to leave behind to depend more fully on God's Spirit?