

# Ready Not Rigid – Participant Follow Along Guide

Fill in the blanks and discuss each section with your group.

## OPENING

---

**Proverbs 21:31** — *“The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord.”*

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How do you typically approach preparing for something you're leading?

## PART 1: WHY PREPARATION MATTERS

---

### 1. PREPARATION HONORS GOD

---

**2 Timothy 2:15** — *“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.”*

Preparation shows \_\_\_\_\_ for God's Word and respect for His \_\_\_\_\_.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does preparation show reverence for God?
2. In what ways can sloppy preparation dishonor Him?

### 2. PREPARATION DISPLAYS OUR LOVE FOR OTHERS

---

**Philippians 2:3** — *“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.”*

When we prepare, we \_\_\_\_\_ others well. Preparation is an act of \_\_\_\_\_.

---

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does preparation demonstrate humility?
2. What are ways preparation helps people feel valued?

## 3. PREPARATION MAKES US READY TO BE FLEXIBLE

---

**Matthew 10:19–20** — “But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.”

The better \_\_\_\_\_ we are, the more \_\_\_\_\_ we are to follow the Spirit.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Jesus trained his disciples, yet he also reminded them not to worry in the moment. What’s the difference between flexibility and lack of preparation?
2. How have you experienced a moment when preparation allowed you to be flexible?

## PART 2: WHAT PREPARATION IS NOT

---

### 4. PREPARATION SHOULD NOT BE ABOUT CONTROL

---

**James 4:15** — “Instead, you ought to say, ‘If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.’”

Preparation is about \_\_\_\_\_, not about total \_\_\_\_\_.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How do you know when preparation turns into control?
2. What’s one practical way to prepare while still trusting God with the outcome?

### 5. PREPARATION IS NOT ABOUT PERFECTION

---

**2 Corinthians 4:7** — “But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.”

God calls us to \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. *Why is perfectionism a trap for leaders?*
2. *How can embracing imperfection point people toward God?*

### CLOSING THOUGHT

---

**Proverbs 16:3** — *“Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.”*

Preparation is more than planning—it's a \_\_\_\_\_.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. *What's one step you can take this week to honor God through your preparation?*

### REFLECT & CONNECT

*The goal is never a flawless lesson—it's a faithful leader. When we prepare with humility and release the outcome to God, we create space for the Spirit to move. How will you prepare differently this week?*