



Called Out | Ronnie Johnson | 1.19.19
Weekly Study

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following question:

Describe your dream house. Where is it and what does it look like?

SHARE

Welcome to Week Three of our new series, 167. There are 168 hours in a week, and you only spend one of those in church. This 6-week series, called 167, is about using this one hour in church to help you follow Jesus in the other 167. Christianity is not about creating churchgoers; it's about building Jesus followers. The calling of Jesus was to follow him in every part and every hour of your life!

Before we dive in, take some time to check in with your group by answering the following questions:

Rate your week on a scale of 1 to 10. Why did you pick the number you did?

What was the best thing that happened to you this week?

GROW

Read Exodus 3:1-12

What do you know about the story of Moses? Why is this moment so significant?

This week Ronnie talked about the moments God calls us to something greater. God loves you exactly as you are, but He also loves you too much to let you stay that way. He is ready to help you step into the plans and purposes He has for your life; your job is to be prepared and willing to take a step of faith.

Throughout Scripture, God calls broken and imperfect people to step out in faith and do amazing things. Moses is a great example. In the story we just read, he is 80 years and has been on the run for forty years after committing murder. It can be tempting to think that we have either sinned too much or are too old for God to use us, but it's not true. No one is too far gone, and the fact that you have breath in your lungs is proof that God still has a plan and a purpose for you!

When God called Moses to return to Egypt, he was terrified and immediately started making excuses, naming off all the reasons he is the wrong man for the job. Let's re-read a piece of the conversation:

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" And God said, "I will be with you" (Exodus 3:11-12).

Notice God didn't use this moment to give Moses a pep talk and remind him that he has what it takes. Instead, God tells Moses that He is going with Him. This is the secret to having the courage to take a leap of faith. Our confidence is not in our own strength, wisdom, or wit; our confidence is in the one who is walking beside us. God doesn't promise that life will be easy. He promises something even better. He promises never to leave or forsake us (Hebrews 13:5).

Do you believe that God is always with you? Think back to a scary or challenging moment in your life, do you believe that God was with you in the middle of that? Why or why not?

Have you ever felt unqualified to do the thing God was calling you to do? Where did you find the strength to move forward?

M O V E

Read Matthew 14:22-33

Imagine being Peter in this situation. Do you think you would've been able to get out of the boat?

Even if you are new to the Bible, you've probably heard this story. The disciples are on a boat, late at night, and Jesus shows up and gives Peter an invitation of a lifetime. It's easy to criticize Peter for taking his eyes off Jesus and sinking but think about how much courage it would take to step out of the boat in the first place.

When he begins to sink, Jesus reaches out and immediately saves him. It's tempting to picture an angry or disappointed Jesus in this moment, but that's not the case. Peter stepping out of the boat was a huge step forward. In the years that followed, Peter went on to do amazing things for the Kingdom. He is known as a pillar of the early church. But it's not because he was perfect, it's because he was always willing to try!

As we follow Jesus, we too will be challenged and encouraged to step out of the boat and take leaps of faith. As Ronnie reminded us this weekend, "if nothing in your life ever feels challenged, you probably aren't living in faith." These moments can be scary, but remember, God doesn't need us to be perfect, He just wants us to step out in faith and try!

So, what is the step God is calling you to make this week?

Do you need to surround yourself with better people who will inspire you to follow Jesus? Do you need to add a spiritual practice like prayer or reading Scripture to your daily routine? Do you need to remove a bad habit from your life? Everyone's answer will be a little different, so take some time to share with your group by answering the following questions.

What is one spiritual disciple (prayer, fasting, reading Scripture, etc.) that you need to add to your life this week? What is your game plan for adding it?

**What is one thing you need to subtract from your life this week to help you follow God?
How can your group keep you accountable?**

P R A Y

As a group, spend some time praying with and for each other. If you are in a coed group, consider breaking up into men and women's groups to share more freely.

T O G O

God said to Moses, “I am who I am.^[c] This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I am has sent me to you.’”

- Exodus 3:14