

Welcome to Kev's on-line eGroup

The e-Glue that helps with the glitter

Part 1: Detailed sermon notes

Part 2: eGroup study questions

Here Comes Church – “In the know”

- Interested in serving at Elevation Church: See: www.elevationchurch.cc
- Please consider joining an eGroup (small group) so you don't have to walk this walk alone – See www.elevationchurch.cc. The “e” stands for empowerment - because getting the instructions from God without having the empowerment to live them out will frustrate you. These groups are our way of putting some very wonderful people in front of you feed you spiritually.
- Stay out of “isolation silos” - you are an easy target for the enemy – and you don't have the benefit of friends to support you. Embrace the power of numbers.
- Interested in leading an eGroup? See: www.elevationchurch.cc
- Don't over-think it – Invite someone to church – “Who do you know that is close to you that is far from God?”
- What are your Gr8ful eight?
- Elevation Nights 2025: Elevation Nights is coming your way soon - Fort Worth - Tulsa Oklahoma - Pennsylvania - Toronto - Detroit - Hartford Connecticut – Newark NJ - Washington DC – The dates are February 25th through March 6th.
- K-Love and Elevation Workshop at Red Rocks in CO in August 2025

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Exodus 3:1-11 - Moses meets God in the burning bush.

3 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. 3 So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up." 4 When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am." 5 "Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." 6 Then he said, "I am the God of your father,[a] the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God. 7 The Lord said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. 8 So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. 9 And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. 10 So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt." 11 But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" 12 And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you[b] will worship God on this mountain." 13 Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?" 14 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.'" 15 God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The Lord,[d] the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.' 'This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation. 16 "Go, assemble the elders of Israel and say to them, 'The Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—appeared to me and said: I have watched over you and have seen what has been done to you in Egypt. 17 And I have promised to bring you up out of your misery in Egypt into the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites—a land flowing with milk and honey.'

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Acts 7:20-36 - Stephen tells Moses' story.

20 "At that time Moses was born, and he was no ordinary child.[d] For three months he was cared for by his family. 21 When he was placed outside, Pharaoh's daughter took him and brought him up as her own son. 22 Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action. 23 "When Moses was forty years old, he decided to visit his own people, the Israelites. 24 He saw one of them being mistreated by an Egyptian, so he went to his defense and avenged him by killing the Egyptian. 25 Moses thought that his own people would realize that God was using him to rescue them, but they did not. 26 The next day Moses came upon two Israelites who were fighting. He tried to reconcile them by saying, 'Men, you are brothers; why do you want to hurt each other?' 27 "But the man who was mistreating the other pushed Moses aside and said, 'Who made you ruler and judge over us? 28 Are you thinking of killing me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?' 29 When Moses heard this, he fled to Midian, where he settled as a foreigner and had two sons. 30 "After forty years had passed, an angel appeared to Moses in the flames of a burning bush in the desert near Mount Sinai. 31 When he saw this, he was amazed at the sight. As he went over to get a closer look, he heard the Lord say: 32 'I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.' Moses trembled with fear and did not dare to look. 33 "Then the Lord said to him, 'Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground. 34 I have indeed seen the oppression of my people in Egypt. I have heard their groaning and have come down to set them free. Now come, I will send you back to Egypt.' 35 "This is the same Moses they had rejected with the words, 'Who made you ruler and judge?' He was sent to be their ruler and deliverer by God himself, through the angel who appeared to him in the bush. 36 He led them out of Egypt and performed wonders and signs in Egypt, at the Red Sea and for forty years in the wilderness. 37 "This is the Moses who told the Israelites, 'God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your own people.' 38 He was in the assembly in the wilderness, with the angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our ancestors; and he received living words to pass on to us.

Part 1: Detailed sermon notes

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Sermon notes: "Move It To The Middle" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 23, 2025

Sermon Highlights

- Everyone is in the middle of something.
- Purpose determines position. Focusing on something peripheral can cause you to miss what God is doing.
- The middle will make you merciful.
- When you're in it, the middle feels like the end.
- Moses' hesitancy wasn't rooted in rebellion, but rejection.
- God's name is 'I AM THAT I AM.' He meets you at your point of need, whatever that need may be.
- Allow yourself to hope past this chapter and write potential into your story: "But he/she..."
- It can be the end of it if you let it be. Move it to the middle.
- Wherever God has positioned you, He will empower you.

Scriptures

- Exodus 3:1-11 - Moses meets God in the burning bush.
- Acts 7:20-36 - Stephen tells Moses' story.

Sermon Discussion

- "When you're in it, the middle feels like the end." Share about a time when you felt like you were at your end, but you realized it was the middle after God brought you through. What did you learn in that experience?
- "Wherever God has positioned you, He will empower you." What are you struggling to feel prepared for, and need to trust that God has empowered you to accomplish it?
- "God's name is 'I AM THAT I AM.' He meets you at your point of need, whatever that need may be." What practical ways can you grow a deeper awareness of God's presence and provision at your point of need?
- "Purpose determines position. Focusing on something peripheral can cause you to miss what God is doing." What has your attention but could be distracting you from what God wants you to focus on?

Prayer Prompt: "What is one area of your life where you need to 'move it to the middle' — to surrender your own plans and refocus on trusting God's purpose in that area?" Pray for a deeper understanding of God's "I AM" presence and provision and the courage to overcome the fear of rejection and step into God's calling and purpose for our lives.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Sermon notes: "Move It To The Middle" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 23, 2025

Detailed sermon notes:

- WE are so excited that you're here today – We have been preparing for you and praying for you and asking God to speak to you. We are about to leave on tour in just a few days - be in prayer for us - elevation nights is coming to Fort Worth Texas, Tulsa Oklahoma, Toronto Canada other places too.
- **We began to build last week about those times in our lives - we've all had them - whether we responded to them or not - where God calls your name - and I was talking about times in the scripture where God called somebody by their name and he said their name not once but twice - and my point was that sometimes you are in a pivotal moment of your life - where it's your past versus your potential - yeah your past versus your purpose - and in those moment sometimes God will use repetition to underscore the urgency of what he has for you – there are many of us - maybe not all of us - who would find ourselves in a moment like that and so today I want to continue that from Exodus 3 verses 1-11 - and all the Bible school students already know who we're talking about today.**
- Exodus 3:1-11 - Moses meets God in the burning bush: 3 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. 3 So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up." 4 When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am." 5 "Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." 6 Then he said, "I am the God of your father,[a] the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God. 7 The Lord said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. 8 So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. 9 And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. 10 So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt." 11 But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"
- Touch the person next to you and say it doesn't make any sense - it doesn't make any sense why I'm still here - after all of the times that I thought about quitting - it doesn't make any sense why I'm still here - after all of the times that I tried to push God away but he wouldn't let me - it makes no sense why I'm here - and watch this - when the Lord had gone over speak with Moses, God called to him from within the bush – saying Moses Moses - only one of seven times this happens in the bible.
- **This is what I call the burning question - who am I? Not only the burning bush - but the burning question - who am I that I should go to the Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt - so the lord gave me a word for your insecurities today and for the things that you're dealing with - that are chapters in your life - that feel like it's never going to change - and this is what the Lord said – "Move it to the Middle.**
- (Pastor Furtick throwing away his prepared talking points) Okay my four points to this message I'm not going to preach – I am going to preach it how the lord gave it to me - like a prophecy - sometimes you got to prophesy - sometimes you don't need points - sometimes you need a prophecy - where the word of the Lord transcends human understanding and all rational factual evidence - and tells you what God says - and that's a shift in perspective that we need to learn

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Detailed sermon notes:

- The first part of this message might hurt a little bit - but I'll stitch you up before lunch - but I do it at my own expense so maybe that'll make it better - we just got back from Bethlehem Pennsylvania - as we were moving through the airport, Abby said I hope there's an update in a few years where you can see what is projected over people's heads - where they're going - now apparently my daughter has been sneaking episodes of Black Mirror - apparently we need more parental supervision over our 13-year-old - and just about the time I told her that's ridiculous - I thought it might actually happen.
- Upon further questioning as to why she would want to see where someone was headed, we looked around the airport and realized that everybody in the airport was carrying and moving in what's culturally called main character energy - I don't know if you've heard this phrase. Is something that is often encouraged to say - hey you got to own your story you can't wait for other people to come rescue you - you can't wait for somebody else to do it for you - you need that main character energy - it's often used to speak of people who are very charismatic - driven and disposed - and bias toward action - they got main character energy - maybe they just seem special or something like that.
- Moses was born with what might have been called main character energy - if the video game had been invented by then - you know it's kind of a video game term - you're the main character and everybody exists to help you on your quest - and Moses when he was born in very difficult circumstance - and I'd like to break his life down into three 40-year stages to help you understand this message.
- Today is called "Move It to The Middle" - the first 40 Years of Moses's life were spent being raised by Pharaoh's daughter - though he was not Pharaoh's daughter at the time - Moses was born as a Hebrew the Hebrew boys were under tremendous threat Pharaoh had decided that their presence represented a threat to him and so each of the Hebrew firstborn boys were to be murdered - and thrown into the Nile River - the Hebrew women were so vigorous in giving birth The Midwives could not allow them not to live - they would have the baby before the Midwife would show up - and carry out the assassination plot. This presented an opportunity for some of the children that were born during that time to live when they should have died. Moses was one of them - the Bible says that he was no ordinary child - when his parents saw that he was special they did something kind of cool – they made a basket and floated him down the Nile River - it just so happened at that point in time that Pharaoh's daughter was out there cleaning like some do on the Nile River - and seeing how beautiful the baby, was she decided to take him in as her own - and needing a nurse for the baby - she located the nearest nurse she could find which happened to be Moses's mother.
- You can see how this presents not only a sense of Moses's uniqueness - but perhaps a sense of loneliness as well - for as he grows up you could say that he is a Hebrew in nature and an Egyptian in nurture - he is an Israelite baby in nature in an environment of Egypt - which he's being nurtured the first 40 Years of his life.
- It'd be good if we read Acts chapter 7 - we can summarize the life of Moses from the speech by Stephen – he was an apostle in the New Testament Church - who was being stoned (not recreationally) - but in all seriousness, he was being persecuted for his faith in Jesus - as they stoned him he was shining with something from the inside even as he was being killed on the outside - and in giving his speech to the people who are stoning him and accusing them of missing Jesus the Messiah. When Jesus came to save them, he goes into a little history lesson about Moses - and I thought it would be great for us to pick it up right in verse 20.

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Detailed sermon notes:

- Acts 7:20-36 - Stephen tells Moses' story. 20 "At that time Moses was born, and he was no ordinary child.[d] For three months he was cared for by his family. 21 When he was placed outside, Pharaoh's daughter took him and brought him up as her own son. 22 Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action. 23 "When Moses was forty years old, he decided to visit his own people, the Israelites. 24 He saw one of them being mistreated by an Egyptian, so he went to his defense and avenged him by killing the Egyptian. 25 Moses thought that his own people would realize that God was using him to rescue them, but they did not. 26 The next day Moses came upon two Israelites who were fighting. He tried to reconcile them by saying, 'Men, you are brothers; why do you want to hurt each other?' 27 "But the man who was mistreating the other pushed Moses aside and said, 'Who made you ruler and judge over us? 28 Are you thinking of killing me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?' 29 When Moses heard this, he fled to Midian, where he settled as a foreigner and had two sons. 30 "After forty years had passed, an angel appeared to Moses in the flames of a burning bush in the desert near Mount Sinai. 31 When he saw this, he was amazed at the sight. As he went over to get a closer look, he heard the Lord say: 32 'I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.' Moses trembled with fear and did not dare to look. 33 "Then the Lord said to him, 'Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground. 34 I have indeed seen the oppression of my people in Egypt. I have heard their groaning and have come down to set them free. Now come, I will send you back to Egypt.' 35 "This is the same Moses they had rejected with the words, 'Who made you ruler and judge?' He was sent to be their ruler and deliverer by God himself, through the angel who appeared to him in the bush. 36 He led them out of Egypt and performed wonders and signs in Egypt, at the Red Sea and for forty years in the wilderness."
- Often Moses is presented to us as being a bumbling stumbling idiot because when God called him he was like I don't talk too good Lord - so we kind of made Moses this bubba who was born in a basket missing the point that he spent the first 40 Years of his life not only as a survivor but a student in the most powerful position of his day and all that background is going to play into what I'm going to tell you in a moment but move down to verse 23 because this moves us into the second phase of Moses's life the Bible says when Moses was 40 years old he decided to visit his own people the Israelites - he saw one of them being mistreated by an Egyptian so he went to his defense and avenged him by killing the Egyptian - Moses thought that his own people would realize that God was using him to rescue them - but they did not - he thought that he would be helpful - but they hated him for being helpful - he thought he was doing something significant - but it ended up that what he did that he thought was significant actually became the end of his time in Egypt.
- When we read about Moses in Exodus chapter 3, we missed a crucial bit of context - that I want us to come back to for a moment in - Exodus 3:1 it says now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law the priest of Midian but in Acts 7 verse 30 we learn after 40 years had passed - so what is presented in one sentence in Exodus 3 took four decades from Moses's perspective.

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Sermon notes: "Move It To The Middle" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 23, 2025

Detailed sermon notes:

- At the time it happened everybody in your life is in the middle of something - our tendency is to treat people according to where we meet people - and this is the part that I told you would be challenging for some of us - if we meet somebody and it seems like they're in a position to help us - we are good to those who we think are good for us – for some of us, if we meet people and we see them as a liability to our social credibility or maybe a liability to our time or our energy we have a tendency to treat people according to where we meet people - Christian maturity does not treat people according to where you meet people - Christian maturity never judges the man by the moment - let me be inclusive - never judge the woman by the moment - never judge the book by the chapter - never judge the potential of someone by the problem that they are currently carrying - so you find in life two different approaches - main character energy which is kind of like I'm focused on what I'm doing I'm focused on what I'm becoming - I'm focused on my goals and sadly a lot of this gets pedaled in the church as spiritual growth - but it is not - because sanctification and self-help sometimes are different - self-help is sometimes about what you can do for you to reach the goal that you set without God - sanctification starts with God's goal that he wants to do - that is much bigger than what you see right now.
- Moses did it his way - he became a murderer - Moses did it God's way he was a messenger - and all I'm trying to get you to see is that it's a matter of perspective.
- Tell somebody move it to the middle.
- I like to pretend like God sent me to teach you a lesson – I can't let you get away with that I saw - it as a shift now - here's the picture that the lord gave me - we're going to work this out on the fly because honestly I kind of thought of it last minute - when we finish singing at the church - usually they bring my Pulpit to the stage - and they put it in the place where it goes - and we do it in a way where it just kind of signals a shift to say we've worshiped god with our singing and The Melodies now we are going to worship God through his spoken word - and his message and both are worship so when we position the pulpit - the camera shots also change - you will notice that you no longer see the drummer.
- Recall the camera work that Pastor Furtick shared where the focus changed from the pulpit to the drummer (Ottis).
- Purpose determines position - get the picture - and then we'll break it down - purpose determines position.
- This is represented in very life of Moses himself - whose perspective is being shifted from the first 40 Years of his life which started in a basket – then the next 40 Years of his life that he spent in Midian - and now this flaming bush - a basket represents the next 40 years. A bush the next 40 years – We read in one sentence was the middle - now I guarantee you - it did not feel like the middle to Moses - I'll tell you how - I know the verse I read you in Acts chapter 7 – I am so glad got that we have a new testament perspective on Moses - because if I would have just read he was tending sheep a bush burned - we would have thought we're meeting Moses at the beginning of his story – but for Moses - it didn't feel like the beginning - it felt like the end and the Bible says that when Moses heard this - he fled (verse 29 Acts chapter 7) to Midian where he settled - he wasn't passing through - in his mind he settled in Midian and had two sons - that's not something you do on a quick trip - that's not something you do just passing through - he's in a place called Midian - and it feels like the end but to us it looks like the beginning and I need you to remember so you have Christian empathy that everybody you meet is in the middle of something and we could be nicer to people in the middle of something very important.

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Sermon notes: "Move It To The Middle" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 23, 2025

Detailed sermon notes:

- When you realize that everybody you meet is in the middle of something you will be more merciful - the middle will make you merciful – It will make you more sanctified in order to stop seeing ourselves as the point of every pursuit - to stop seeing ourselves with the destination over head - rushing through the airport trying to get somewhere.
- Here's Moses in a place that seems like a destination – but feels like a detour - it's not the beginning - it's not the end - Moses doesn't know that yet and neither do you - when you're in it - that's the thing about it - when you're in it, the middle feels like the end - I'm talking about failures - I'm talking about moments of setback and I'm talking about closed doors - and I'm talking about rejection - you know what was interesting to me? To study about Moses and I want to give you this because I thought it was very psychologically and theologically aligned - the Bible goes on to say that he was sent to deliver the children of Israel - but the children of Israel resented him - he is sent to people who resent him - he's not all Hebrew in their mind - he's not all Egyptian either - he is a middle child.
- When you are in the middle, it can be difficult to find where you fit in.
- I can move it to the middle - I can do it either way - Pentecostal - Episcopalian - Catholic - I can Hail Mary - I can thank Jesus - I can do it in tongues - I can give a Ted talk - I can preach it because I'm in the middle - don't label me – Touch your neighbor and say “don't limit me I'm a middle.”
- Never judge a man by the moment - never judge yourself by your lowest moment - never pride yourself in your high moment - Moses who was in a murderous situation hid in a place called Midian and assumed that these 40 years would be the end - 40 years is a long time to wait for an angel.
- I think it's verse 30 - put it up and see if I'm right - it said after 40 years had passed an angel appeared to Moses said Moses Moses - I guess God was calling him by his middle name Moses Moses - Moses means to draw out - because he was drawn out of the river and now he was being sent to draw out - he was moving from what God had done for him to what he was being called to do for others - and God said Moses Moses.
- This is why I threw my notes away because I knew the Lord was going to take us in a few directions today - it's what came after my name that mattered to my Dad - it's what came after my name Clem – Son - you're my son - get it Clem – Son
- And here's God calling Moses but he doesn't really talk about Moses - I want to read it to you from Exodus chapter 3 - this is going to help you so much.
- Let me give you this principle real quick - selflessness is the most underused tool for stress management - Selflessness - I don't mean thinking less of yourself - I mean thinking of your selfless - selflessness is the most underutilized tool for stress management - being at the center is keeping you stressed - and I'll show it to you from Moses and then I'll show you why - and then we'll have a big party in the place and go home.
- But Moses gets all caught up in main character energy and we forgive him because look the Lord calls his name and says Moses Moses and Moses is like - that's me here - I am right - I'm here in Midian - do not come any closer - God said this is verse 5 the place where you are standing is Holy Ground -take your shoes off - you're not going to run from this one - remember Moses ran to Midian hiding and then God is bringing him to this bush - and he says you're not running away this time - now that he's standing and not running – turning and paying attention to what God is doing - The Lord says the place where you are standing is Holy Ground - and then the next thing God said is I am the God of your father - the God of Abraham - The God of Isaac - and the god of Jacob.

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Detailed sermon notes:

- God's been doing this a long time y'all - God's Miracles didn't start with your mortgage payment the God you pray to has done much tougher stuff than what you're asking him to do right now.
- This man led a nation out of slavery - you don't think God will show you how to raise those kids? Have you lost your mind? Come on - you forgot who you're talking to - you forgot who called you - You forgot who promised to keep you - You forgot who lives in you - but just about the time we get the perspective of who God is - and what he's come to do - See verse 8 – "I've come down to rescue my people out of the Egyptians hands - to bring them into the land flowing with milk and honey verse 9 and now the cry has reached me and now in verse 10 so now go I am sending you to pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.
- But Moses said to God who am I and this is where I think we miss it - go to the drums real quick - cameraman that is the total wrong focus when God is speaking and you shift your attention - back to you - let me say it this - way when The Great I Am is talking and you say who am I you - need to shift your attention back to me - back to the one who is speaking to you - back to the one who put you in the basket - back to the one who floated you down the Nile - back to the one who made sure you survived there's.
- One thing about it for sure the enemy has already made so many attempts to end your faith journey - to end your life - to end your hope to end your optimism - to end your faith to end your progress to - to end your sanctification process - the enemy has already tried to end it - and he didn't - why is that? Because he couldn't - because it was what came after what God Called Moses Moses that mattered - more than what Moses was - I'll put it to you this way - when Moses got confused and said who do I say sent me to them if they doubt me? God said tell them I am that I am - you didn't know this verse - but Exodus 3:14 teaches us something very powerful - God's name Yahweh is "I am" he wasn't was - he isn't going to be - he is I am.
- Now I've taught you that before and I've taught you that his name being "I am" means he's a present help in the time of trouble - but what I never taught you so clear before is when he said I am - that I am the place of that is meant to represent every place where God will express his power in your life - so let's say in this specific season of your life - God wants to accomplish a purpose - and in order to accomplish his purpose – he is going to have to open a door for you - that you can't open for yourself - and only God can do that well - I am that open door - Let's say you're in a season in your life where it looks like there's no way you're going to be able to move through this next month – it is so busy it - is so hectic - it is so overwhelmed - and you need a sustaining power in your life - a sustaining energy over your life - some of you are so tired - your biggest prayer last week was I can't do this - you didn't even have the faith left to ask - Every time you thought about it - it started twisting up inside of you - but what you didn't realize about God's name is that feeling - that place that need is the place where God wants to express his name - so if your tired - where you need God to show up that is the place where God's energy will be wherever it is that he has positioned you - that's where it is - that he will empower - you I'll take it further - if there is an insecurity in your life that makes you think you can't do it - that's good - the insecurity is the insurance policy that lets you know that when it gets done - you won't be tempted to take the credit - because you'll know and they'll know and everybody will know - it had to be God.

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Detailed sermon notes:

- I watched them in the basket - I saw them make a mistake - but somehow God kept drawing them out - and that's what I see in this season for your life - you're going to be drawing from the God who can draw you out of the water and you are not going to run out of resource - because you will not run out of God - you are not going to run out of wisdom because you will not run out of God - you will not run out of meal because you will not run out of God - you will not run out of support because you will not run out of God - you will not run out of in because you will not run out of him - you will not run out of it because you will not run out of him.
- I am that I am - take your need and move it to the middle - and make a great I am sandwich and God says I am that I am – Boy! if had planned this better I'd have brought some baloney and some pumper nickel bread up here - and I would have showed you how to sandwich your situation by the presence and the spoken promise of God and move it to the middle.
- What we know that Moses doesn't know and that's a bold statement - because the Bible said other prophets have spoken in other ways - but Moses I spoke to face to face now that's in numbers after they complained to Moses and didn't appreciate him.
- Oh I almost forgot to say this - thank you Lord his hesitancy to do what God called him to do because he argued back and forth with God - his hesitancy to do it wasn't rooted in rebellion it was rooted in rejection - because he tried to do this the first time - it didn't work the first time - he tried to fight for his people - it cost him 40 years in the wilderness - and now you understand why you're uncomfortable receiving love from others - and when people try to treat you good - you treat them bad - just to get things back to the natural habitat that you're used - seeking the lower state because it's the state that you know.
- Moses wasn't rebelling against God - that's Jonah - he was rejected by them - and the rejection takes root - and it gets to the place where you go. I don't really want to put it out there like that anymore - I love when y'all get quiet thinking about those hesitancies in your life to trust God because of a root of rejection - where the first time it didn't work - and after 40 years you pretty much assume this is it and there's not much I can do about it - but Moses should have known because he was no ordinary child - that even in those 40 years - and even with his perceived lack of natural talent to speak - watch this - he should have known this can't be the end - it's called Midian - this can't be the end.
- A few years ago - I was having my own sort of Moses moment - I had had a few things that I tried to do in an effort to trust God - and I'm sure I didn't do them perfectly - but I was doing them sincerely - you ever been there? I'm not saying I did it exactly right - but I meant well - okay I meant well - I'm not saying it wasn't a mistake - but I meant well - that's Moses's story - that's why he's in Midian.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Sermon notes: "Move It To The Middle" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 23, 2025

Detailed sermon notes:

- I meant well I was trying to protect an Israelite but I ended up killing an Egyptian and maybe I shouldn't have got in the middle of it and so now he's on the far side of the desert in a place called Midian - and this place will ultimately be the mountain where God will give the Ten Commandments Mount - but it's not yet - because this is just the middle now - here's Moses is tending his sheep - all of a sudden the burning bush becomes the focal point and Moses moves over in order to see why it doesn't burn up – And Lord speaks to him about the future that God has planned for him - which revolves around the purpose that God has created him for - now that's what this is about in your life - nothing else for a few days - forget about your preference and your plan of the way you want this situation to turn out - I see you going through a valley and that feels like that's all there is - while I was recently reminded that it can only be a valley if there are mountains on either side of it - so now we've got a Moses who spent 40 years after a rough start - he then went through a dry season and now God is bringing him to an expected end to be the leader that God has always meant for him to be and he's in a place called Midian.
- Well as I was going through some of my self-pity in moments and specifically the narrative that was playing out - is the best is behind me? Now I think that's one of the lies that the devil tells that we don't talk about very much - that we all walk around wondering about - it's like - is this going to be all there is for my life? It doesn't take a divorce to make you feel that way - it doesn't take turning 45 to make you feel that way – it doesn't take having to wear readers to make you feel that way - you can hit a wall in your life where you wonder is this the most joy I'm going to experience? Is this the most difference I'm going to make? Is this the greatest accomplishment that I'm ever going to accomplish? And then you hit a wall - or you hit what you call a failure - it may not be a failure - you just see it as a failure - and so then the enemy says - it's the end - the enemy loves to tell you where the end is. I was sitting with this - I think it had been going on a couple months - I was sitting with this feeling that my best work is behind me - my best sermons are behind me - my best songs are behind me - it was just it was an avalanche. Has anyone felt this way?
- I've never shared it even with Holly and I looked for the notebook where I wrote it down and I can't find it but something came over me and I began to write about the next five years of my life as if they had already happened - as if God were with me and I didn't write anything there a time to do this - I didn't write anything about how bad I felt - and how down I was - how lonely it was - and all the fears I had.
- I took what felt like the end and I moved it to the middle - and I picked up there and I wrote down two words "but he" - somebody say "but he" and I wrote those words and it was almost like Moses Moses - it was like I saw everything that I had been - everything that I had been through everything that I was - wrestling with and then that second Moses but he and I begin to write my pen began to move - and I begin to write about potential - I began to write but he continued to show up and preach and God helped him and gave him messages that went around the world in order to help people with their struggles. But he continued to write songs and collaborate with other creative individuals who were strong where he was weak and so he was able to continue to be a part of making music for the people of God to sing and be ministered to - but he humbled himself and realized that he didn't have to be good at everything as long as he was in touch with the one who was.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Sermon notes: "Move It To The Middle" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 23, 2025

Detailed sermon notes:

- I made a pivot and in that moment that I made a pivot with my pen - something started to come alive in the spirit and I began to see that what I was dwelling on - as the end the Lord says I know the plans I have for you plans to give you a hope in a future - after 70 years - I completed in Babylon I will come to you and after I've come to you and delivered you - you will praise me on this mountain - God said to Moses after you have brought the people out of Egypt you will worship God on this Mountain he is taking what Moses thinks is the end - and moving it to the middle
- Closing Prayer #1: I'll tell you something - it can be the end if you let it be - if you let it end you it will end you if you let it make you tap it will end you - if you let it Define you it will define you - if you let it bury you - it will bury you - but he but he who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete - the Bible says that all things work together for the good of those who love him and are called according to his purpose. God's not done - he said I'll bring you to an expected end so if his purpose isn't finished yet for this situation it is not the end - move it to the middle - I'm talking about the thing that you've been crying about - I'm talking about the thing that has had you so down you can't Rejoice - I'm talking about the thing that has blurred your vision and fogged your faith - I'm talking about the thing that has beat you into submission - the thing that's got you tied up in knots - you've been treating it like the end - and you need to move it thank you to the middle.
- Closing Prayer #2: So when you're telling this story it is going to be a chapter and a scene not a destiny - that's why it's called Midian - you aren't meant to live here - you will not die in this wilderness - you will not go down in this state for there is a burning bush with your name on it Moses - and you know what makes the bush significant it's burning but it won't burn up - is still burning after all it's been through - and I'm preaching to somebody today that after all you've been through - after every Red Sea - he split - after everything he forgave you of - after every breath he poured in your lungs - after every mercy drop on the door, door you have a reason to praise.
- Closing prayer 3: The middle of course it's messy - it's difficult it's the middle of course - it's dry - it's always different in the middle - but the Lord said for us to take this thing that we think is going to be the end of our testimony and move it to the middle and let it become who is this for - let it become the part of your story that you say. I'm trying to tell you not to quit in a different way - I feel like every week I'm trying to tell you it's too soon for you to sit down and settle in Midian when God called you to be a deliverer and look what all God did through Moses - oh this is this is so personal - and He wants to do it for you. The Bible says that he called them by name to lead them out of Egypt and look at acts 7:36 he led them out of Egypt performed wonders and signs in Egypt at the Red Sea and for 40 years in the wilderness.
- Now to me that's got to be the saddest scripture that I've read today - God spent the first 40 years preparing Moses his basket years where he was preserved - you know God spent the first part of your life preparing you - it wasn't easy - it may not have been what you chose but he floated you to where you needed to be - then after Moses's mistake he spent the next 40 years repairing Moses - humbling Moses - but after that Burning Bush Moses was meant to lead the people into the promised land - and look what verse 36 says "please he led them out of Egypt - and he performed wonders and signs - and then for 40 years in the wilderness - now here's the warning he wasn't supposed to be in the wilderness with them - at the Red Sea he performed wonders - the sea split - in the wilderness he performed miracles for 40 years - but the trip through the wilderness was not meant to be the end it was meant to be the middle - to get through the wilderness - to the promised land would have taken the Israelites two weeks tops - how did they switch and make a 40 year habitation out of a two-week transition - it's because they treated the middle like it was the end and there are some things in

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

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Detailed sermon notes:

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Part 2: eGroup study questions

Sermon Discussion: "Move It To The Middle" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 23, 2025

- "Our tendency is to treat people according to where we meet people.
- We are good to those who we think are good for us – if we meet people and we see them as a liability to our social credibility or maybe a liability to our time or our energy we have a tendency we treat them differently.
- Christian maturity does not treat people according to where you meet people - Christian maturity never judges the man by the moment.
- Because sanctification and self-help sometimes are different - self-help is sometimes about what you can do for you to reach the goal that you set without God - sanctification starts with God's goal that he wants to do - that is much bigger than what you see right now.
- Moses did it his way - he became a murderer - Moses did it God's way he was a messenger"

Sermon Discussion: "Move It To The Middle" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 23, 2025

What is Pastor Furtick mean when he says "purpose determines position as we go to the middle?"

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What is Pastor Furtick mean when he says purpose determines position as we go to the middle?

- "Moses himself - whose perspective shifted from the first 40 Years of his life which started in a basket – then the next 40 Years of his life that he spent in Midian - and now the flaming bush – and this represents the next 40 years.
- The middle feels like the end to some of us – but it might even be just the beginning.
- When you realize that everybody you meet is in the middle of something you will be more merciful - the middle will make you merciful.
- It will make you more sanctified.
- To stop seeing ourselves as the point of every pursuit - to stop seeing ourselves with the destination - rushing through the airport trying to get somewhere.
- God said is I am the God of your father - the God of Abraham - The God of Isaac - and the god of Jacob. God's been doing this a long time y'all - God's Miracles didn't start with your mortgage payment - the God we pray to has done much tougher stuff than what you're asking him to do right now."

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Sermon Discussion: "Move It To The Middle" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 23, 2025

Franklin Covey: The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People: "Always have the end state in mind"

Sermon Discussion: "Move It To The Middle" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 23, 2025

What does this mean in Ex 3?

"When Moses got confused and said who do I say sent me to them if they doubt me? God said tell them I am that I am?"

Sermon Discussion: "Move It To The Middle" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 23, 2025

What does this mean in Ex 3?

"When Moses got confused and said who do I say sent me to them if they doubt me? God said tell them I am that I am?"

- "“I am” means he's a present help in the time of trouble.
- I am the place of that is meant to represent every place where God will express his power in your life.
- God wants to accomplish a purpose - and in order to accomplish his purpose – he is going to have to open a door for you - that you can't open for yourself - and only God can do that well.
- Let's say you're in a season in your life where – it is so busy it - is so hectic - it is so overwhelmed - and you need a sustaining power in your life - a sustaining energy over your life - what you didn't realize about God's where God wants to express his name.
- So if your tired - where you need God to show up that is the place where God's energy will be wherever it is that he has positioned you.
- And the insecurity is the insurance policy that lets you know that when it gets done - you won't be tempted to take the credit - because you will know - and everybody will know - it had to be God.
- You will not run out of support because you will not run out of God - you will not run out of it because you will not run out of him.”

Sermon Discussion: "Move It To The Middle" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 23, 2025

So what does "Move It To The Middle" Mean?

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So what does "Move It To The Middle" Mean?

"Make a great "I am" sandwich and God says I am that I am – sandwich your situation by the presence and the spoken promise of God and move it to the middle.

Not going to the middle means we merely go back to the natural habitat that you're used –to seeking the lower state because it's the state that you know. Moses wasn't rebelling against God - that's Jonah - he was rejected by them - and the rejection takes root - and it gets to the place where you go.

The place where the Lord speaks to us about the future God has planned for us - which revolves around the purpose that God has created us."

Sermon Discussion: "Move It To The Middle" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 23, 2025

So what does "Move It To The Middle" Mean?

"Don't write about the next five years of your life as if they had already happened

Take what feels like the end and move it to the middle.

Don't treat the middle like it was the end.

If you let it end you it will end you - if you let it make you tap it will end you - if you let it define you it will define you – The Bible says "he but he who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it - all things work together for the good of those who love him and are called according to His purpose."

Sermon Discussion: "Move It To The Middle" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 23, 2025

So what does "Move It To The Middle" Mean?

Don't write about the next five years of your life as if they had already happened

Take what feels like the end and move it to the middle.

Write about potential using the words "But He"

- Example: "but he continued to show up and preach - and God helped him - and gave him messages that went around the world in order to help people with their struggles."
- "But he continued to write songs and collaborate with other creative individuals who were strong where he was weak and so he was able to continue to be a part of making music.
- But he humbled himself and realized that he didn't have to be good at everything as long as he was in touch with the one who was."

Sermon Discussion: "Move It To The Middle" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 23, 2025

What is your "But he" statement?

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Sermon Discussion: "Move It To The Middle" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 23, 2025

Closing Prayer: "God spent the first 40 years preparing Moses - his basket years where he was preserved - then after Moses's mistake he spent the next 40 years repairing Moses – humbling Moses - but after that Burning Bush Moses was meant to lead the people into the promised land - and then 40 years in the wilderness - How did they make a 40-year habitation out of a two-week transition? - It's because they treated the middle like it was the end and there are some things in your life that God is doing right now and he's providing for you - and he's empowering you and he's enabling you and he's sustaining you and he's calling you - and it's a Moses Moses moment - and if you come forward and look and listen and turn aside and say - wonder why God left me here - wonder why cancer didn't kill me - wonder why depression didn't have the last word - wonder why I survived - wonder why God put me at this place in time - wonder why God gave me these experiences - if you move it to the middle it changes everything."

Back up material

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Sermon Discussion: "The Prayer That Repairs" by Pastor Steven Furtick on February 16, 2025

"The prayer that re-pairs. See how me and Holly are standing together like this? We're a pair. That's a visual illustration for you and Jesus. You keep thinking you are paired with people, so when people leave, you think it's over. You are a joint heir with Jesus. See Hebrews 7:25: ""Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them." There is the prayer that prevents, there is the prayer that prepares, but I have a feeling I'm speaking to a few people online today, and even a few in the room, who's prayer didn't prevent it. Prayer didn't prepare. Like Simon, Simon, you are going through something right now, or you've been through something, where you need the prayer that re-pairs. The prayer that re-pairs is this: "Lord, if everything else goes away, if everything else is sifted, don't let this trial take my faith." Because if my faith doesn't fail, I can make it. If my faith doesn't fail, I can come back from this. If my faith doesn't fail, I can get resourceful. If my faith doesn't fail, I can reach out. If my faith doesn't fail, I can pivot. So, just like the Savior prayed for Peter, we want to right now pray for you, those of you who are "Simon, Simon." Don't let the pressure get the best of me." This is the prayer that brings you back to God."

And from his fullness, we have all received” - John chapter 1, verse 16: additional commentary by Charles Spurgeon: “There is a fullness of blessings of every sort and shape; a fullness of grace to pardon, of grace to regenerate, of grace to sanctify, of grace to preserve, and of grace to perfect. There is a fullness at all times; a fullness of comfort and affliction, a fullness of guidance and prosperity. Come believer, and get all of your needs supplied; ask largely in your receive largely, for this fullness is exhaustible and is treasured up where all the needy may reach it, even in Jesus - Emmanuel God is with us.

Sermon Discussion: "Where You Meet With God" – by Pastor Furtick on Sunday, Jan. 12, 2025

Closing Prayer #4: "May this be a year of recovery for you. May this be a year of clarity for you, for God to bring things up out of the muddy Jordan River. May this be a year that you don't stand swinging your stick, knowing this isn't working anymore. May this be a year that you don't just keep pretending like everything is fine when you know your effectiveness is at the bottom of the water. God will you come with me? The answer is "Yes." He already promised his presence. It lives inside of you. May this be the year where the place where you meet with God becomes the mountaintop of your victory and the valley of your midnight. The place you meet with God has been too small. If church is the only place you meet with God, the place you meet with God is too small. Expand your expectation of God's presence. I declare over your life a year of expansion. Not just that you would get more stuff but that you would get more him. May this be the year of his presence in your life. "God, come with me to work this year. God, come with me as I struggle to sleep at night. God, come with me into the challenge this year. God, come with me into the uncertainty. Will you come?" He says, "Yes," and he says, "When it falls, I'll show you where to reach to get it back."

Sermon Discussion: "The Battle Made Me" by Stephen Chandler from Union Church in MD – on Jan. 5, 2025

Daily devotional Spurgeon quote from 12/26/2024

"The reed is spongy and hollow - there is no substance in it. The reed lives in water and owes its very existence to the moisture. Let the water drain away, and the reed withers - do I only serve God when I am in good company - when faith is profitable and respectful? Do I love the Lord only when I am enjoying comforts from His hands? The reed cannot grow without water - but the Lord's plants can and do flourish, even when there's a drought - A godly man (and woman) often grows best when his/her circumstances are daunting - Lord - let me find my life in you and not in the shifting sands of this world's favor or gain."

Outstanding theology Here – I really lean in when Pastor Furtick talks about Gideon in Judges 6:

“When God Goes In” by Pastor Steven Furtick – March 27, 2023

“Make Peace With Your Strength” by Pastor Steven Furtick – April 2, 2023

“Breaking The Bondage Of Wrong Belief” by Pastor Steven Furtick on 8/11/2024

Power quote from Pastor Furtick on 8/11/2024: *“They have come into a land whose customs have become their captivity. They have come into a land that God gave them, and the customs of that land have become their captivity. The Lord says, “Gideon, I want to use you to lead a revolt and a revolution. I’m going to enable you, strengthen you, supply you, and give the enemy into your hand, and you will strike them all down.” Gideon said, “Me? I’m the least in my family. My clan is the least in the nation. Why me?” God said, “Why you? Because me.” God turns 2s into 10s instantly. Only God can do that. The beauty of this is God doesn't say, “Gideon, I’m going to put you through a preparation process. This is going to take three years to get it done.” He has actually been preparing Gideon while Gideon has been hidden. Do you know God has been preparing you while you have been hidden too? Do you know God has been giving you tools, resources, lessons, words, and confirmations while you have been in the cave of what you perceive to be your abandonment and wasted season?”*

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Sermon notes – “The Gift Of Grief” by Lisa Harper – on July 7, 2024

Awesome prayer by Lisa Harper on 7/7/2024 – in the sanctuary, most of the congregation is standing – those in grief are sitting – remarkable moment:

- Closing Prayer: “I'm near to those whose lives feel crushed today - this low point in your life - if you bring it to the Lord – He will lead you to a place of intimacy - a place of personal revival - that you probably haven't had the faith to carry – lower your pretense in this family of God - For those of you who are grieving - if the Holy Spirit confirms - would you be audacious enough to even right now say thank you God I'm going to choose to be grateful for this grief? - I can't see around the corner of my circumstances - yet I really do believe You will answer and I really do believe you're enough - and I really do believe you're close to the brokenhearted - and so I'm going to choose right now - I'm going to say thank you - I don't feel it yet - but I'm going to say thank you for this grief because somehow - some way you're going to use even this dead-dog of a season to make me more dependent on you - to make me lean into my brothers and sisters more closely - you're going to build in me a heart of flesh instead of allowing me to hide my heart of stone - King Jesus come and bring Revival - King Jesus come and bring healing - Thank you God.”

Have a good navigational beacon in 2022:

“Life and Leadership at the Highest” A quote from an unknown author and requoted by Pastor Tim Keller in his sermon “This is Jesus” part 4 “Two Grieving Sisters Encounter Jesus” at Oxford University in 2016: “The accounts of Him in the New Testament speak for themselves – He combines qualities that no one has ever seen – despite his incredible claims, we never see him pompous, offended, or standing on his own dignity. Despite being absolutely approachable to the weakest and most broken people, he is completely fearless before the powerful and the corrupt. Despite being weary and lonely, we find him remarkably human - filled with joy, fear, love, and anger. Yet, we never see him Moody. We never see him being inconsistent. We never see Him strong when He should be tender and we never see Him tender when He should be strong. Most interesting of all – Of all his encounters with people - we are continuously surprised – shocking us - but never disappointing us – it is difficult for us to imagine words that Jesus ought to have said or deeds that he ought to have done. Nothing he has done ever falls short - in fact He is always surprising us - because He is incomparably better than what we could imagine for ourselves. Why? These are the surprises of perfection – He has tenderness without weakness – He has strength without harshness – humility without the slightest lack of confidence – unhesitating authority without the slightest sense of self-absorption – Holy and unbending convictions without the slightest lack of approachability – power without insensitivity – passion without prejudice – there is never a false step – there’s never a jarring no – this is life at the highest.”