

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 tour: Feb 24–Mar 5 in Hershey (PA), Brooklyn (NY), Indianapolis (IN), Milwaukee (WI), Grand Rapids (MI), Knoxville (TN), Columbus (OH), Rosemont (IL). Tickets: elevationnights.com.

Joshua 17:14-18 - The tribe of Manasseh asks for more land

12 Yet the Manassites were not able to occupy these towns, for the Canaanites were determined to live in that region. 13 However, when the Israelites grew stronger, they subjected the Canaanites to forced labor but did not drive them out completely.

14 The people of Joseph said to Joshua, “Why have you given us only one allotment and one portion for an inheritance? We are a numerous people, and the Lord has blessed us abundantly.”

15 “If you are so numerous,” Joshua answered, “and if the hill country of Ephraim is too small for you, go up into the forest and clear land for yourselves there in the land of the Perizzites and Rephaites.”

16 The people of Joseph replied, “The hill country is not enough for us, and all the Canaanites who live in the plain have chariots fitted with iron, both those in Beth Shan and its settlements and those in the Valley of Jezreel.”

17 But Joshua said to the tribes of Joseph—to Ephraim and Manasseh—“You are numerous and very powerful. You will have not only one allotment 18 but the forested hill country as well. Clear it, and its farthest limits will be yours; though the Canaanites have chariots fitted with iron and though they are strong, you can drive them out.”

Ephesians 1:18 - Paul prays for awareness of inheritance

Thanksgiving and Prayer

15 For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, 16 I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. 17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. 18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, 19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength 20 he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, 21 far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. 22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Genesis 41:50-51 - Joseph names his firstborn Manasseh

50 Before the years of famine came, two sons were born to Joseph by Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On. 51 Joseph named his firstborn Manasseh and said, "It is because God has made me forget all my trouble and all my father's household." 52 The second son he named Ephraim and said, "It is because God has made me fruitful in the land of my suffering."

53 The seven years of abundance in Egypt came to an end, 54 and the seven years of famine began, just as Joseph had said. There was famine in all the other lands, but in the whole land of Egypt there was food. 55 When all Egypt began to feel the famine, the people cried to Pharaoh for food. Then Pharaoh told all the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph and do what he tells you."

56 When the famine had spread over the whole country, Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold grain to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe throughout Egypt. 57 And all the world came to Egypt to buy grain from Joseph, because the famine was severe everywhere.

Opening Prayer on 1/18/2026 " So we come to you today, father, in the name of Jesus, and we make prayers and petitions, but first with Thanksgiving, we thank you for our lives. We thank you for our breath. We thank you for another day that you allow us to see. We thank you for ways that you've made. We thank you for the blood that you shed for us so that our sins can be forgiven. We thank you for the benefits of knowing you. We thank you for our friendship with you. We thank you for all of the wonderful things that you've allowed our eyes to see, our ears to hear. Thank you, God, for the person standing next to us. Thank you for what you brought them through that they can't even tell anybody about. Thank you for what you're bringing them through right now. They don't know the outcome, but you do. You know the plans you have for us. Plans to prosper us, not to harm us. Plans to give us hope and a future. We declare in the mighty name of Jesus, Jehovah Jireh, meet every need in its place. If it's a physical need, it's met. If it's an emotional need, it's met. If it's wisdom, you give. If it's strength, you've given. And we give you praise because only you can do it. And now, God, I thank you that this is about to be an explosive encounter with your word. I thank you for the faith of each person I'm speaking to today. If it's just a mustard seed of faith, it can move a mountain. You can do anything. You're a great and mighty God. And I give you the praise in Jesus' name."

Part 1: Detailed sermon notes

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

Sermon Summary

- When you forget how far you've come, it makes how far you have to go the only thing that you're focused on.
- Just because He blessed us doesn't mean we don't have pressure.
- It is true that when we are under pressure, we lose perspective. And it is also true that God has given us a lot more than we have occupied.
- Without a constant focus on the goodness of God, it is easy to go from inheritance to entitlement.
- Inheritance says "I get to do it." Entitlement says "I've got to do it."
- Are you investing into what you inherited?
- Are you working with what God gave you or simply complaining how it's not enough?
- We are praying for peace in areas where we are unwilling to clear out trees.
- Behind what you have been unwilling to confront is the answer to the prayer that you seek.
- Don't let what you are facing make you forget who you are. You are very powerful. You are very capable. You are very strong.
- If you clear it, you can claim it.
- Remember how much God has done to bring you to this point.

Scriptures

- Joshua 17:14-18 - The tribe of Manasseh asks for more land
- Ephesians 1:18 - Paul prays for awareness of inheritance
- Genesis 41:50-51 - Joseph names his firstborn Manasseh

Sermon Discussion

- "When you forget how far you've come, it makes how far you have to go the only thing that you're focused on." What's one way you can remind yourself this week of how far God's already brought you?
- "If you can clear it, you can claim it." What's one thing God may be asking you to face so that you can step into what He's already given you?
- "Just because He blessed us doesn't mean we don't have pressure." What has God blessed you with that came with pressure, and how can gratitude change the way you carry it?
- **"Inheritance says, 'I get to do it.' Entitlement says, 'I've got to do it.'" What's one responsibility you want to start approaching with an "I get to" attitude?**
- **"Are you investing into what you inherited?" What has God entrusted you with and how can you invest in it with more intentionality this week?**

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

AI enabled sermon summary

Overview: A sermon centered on Joshua 17:14–18 urges believers to remember where they come from, recognize God's answered prayers, and shift from entitlement back to inheritance. Using the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh as a model, the message reframes "too much and not enough" pressure as an invitation to work and war within what God already gave. Key refrains: "Don't forget where you come from," "Clear it," and "You still can."

Worship and Prayer

- Opening hymn and corporate prayer focused on God's sovereignty and the exalted name of Jesus over "all sickness, all disease, all sin and all shame."
- Thanksgiving for life, breath, forgiveness through Jesus' blood, daily benefits, community, and God's plans "to prosper us... to give us hope and a future."
- Petitions: God (Jehovah Jireh) to meet physical, emotional, wisdom, and strength needs; faith, even as a mustard seed, to encounter God's word.
- Scripture Focus and Context (Joshua 17:14–18)
- Complaint: The people of Joseph (Ephraim and Manasseh) tell Joshua they have only one allotment and "the hill country is not enough," citing strong Canaanites with iron chariots.
- Joshua's reply: If they are numerous and blessed, they should go up, clear the forested hill country, and drive out strong enemies with iron chariots. Promise: they are "numerous and very powerful," and the farthest limits will be theirs if they clear it.

Theme: The Pressure of Blessings and Perspective

- **Blessings create pressure (more people, responsibility, and complexity) that can narrow perspective to what's lacking, leading to self-pity and the loop of "not enough."**
- Exhortation to remember God's past deliverance and answered prayers so today's pressures do not eclipse gratitude.
- "Too Much and Not Enough" Reframed
- Common tensions: too much to do and not enough energy; too many needs and not enough resources; too many demands and not enough supply.
- Application: The land isn't insufficient; much of it is uncleared or occupied by enemies. The issue is not the size of the inheritance but what remains undeveloped.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

AI enabled sermon summary

Inheritance vs. Entitlement

- Warning: Without a constant focus on God's goodness, we drift "from inheritance to entitlement."
- Scripture: Ephesians 1:18—Paul prays for enlightened hearts to know the riches of the inheritance already given, not to receive a new one.
- Mindset shift: Inheritance says "I get to"; entitlement says "I've got to." Gratitude unlocks the power within what God entrusted.
- Joshua's Charge: Work and War
- God provides an inheritance; we must invest and contend for it: "It's going to take work and it's going to take war."
- Practical balance: Pray for deliverance and also embrace supports—AA (Alcoholics Anonymous), accountability, Christian counseling, exercise, and habit changes—so the land has room to flourish.
- Key Exhortation: "Clear It"
- Main directive: "Clear it"—remove what clutters the land God gave (mental junk, misplaced priorities, unproductive relationships, crowded calendars, debt-fueling carts).
- Principle: If you can clear it, you can claim it. Behind what you won't confront lies the answer you seek.
- Illustrations:
- Environmental delay: A potential "Carolina heelsplitter" clam halted building clearance for months—small things can stall big projects.
- Decision paralysis: Fear of "what ifs" (the clam may be there) keeps people from building.
- Remembering Right: The Manasseh Effect
- Genesis 41:50–52: Joseph names his firstborn Manasseh ("forget"), meaning God made him forget his trouble by reframing his past through God's present work.
- Mandela Effect analogy: People often misremember. Examples cited: "No, I am your father" (not "Luke, I am your father"); Jif (not "Jiffy").
- Application: Choose to "remember it different"—focus on God's faithfulness rather than on abandonment or delay.
- God's Track Record with Chariots
- Red Sea recall: God drowned Pharaoh's chariots; He is "an expert in overpowering chariots."
- Encouragement: Today's chariots (formidable obstacles) won't stop God. Remember who you are and whose you are.
- Personal Illustrations that Ground the Message
- Origin: Moncks Corner, South Carolina—remembering humble beginnings sustains gratitude.
- Early-career gratitude: Crying over a \$500 bonus; learning to be thankful for "benefits."
- Family and pressure: Contrasting parenting approaches and the burden of reminders; humor about dentist appointments and coats.
- 2016 building opening: Joy mixed with pressure (jet lag, national tensions, a close friend's crisis). Despite delays, God accomplished the work.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

AI enabled sermon summary

Inheritance vs. Entitlement

- Declarations and Encouragement
- Identity: “You are numerous and very powerful.” The Holy Spirit within makes believers capable beyond self-empowerment.
- Agency: “You still can”—repair relationships (as God wills), forgive, change habits, seek help, manage health, apologize, choose differently.
- Promise with process: Every promise comes with enemies; wheat comes with weeds. Don’t settle with Canaanites—drive them out.

Closing Prayer and Call

- Prayer of gratitude for God’s past faithfulness and declaration of strength and power in Jesus’ name.
- Pastoral invitation: Campus pastors to lead in prayer, including the moment for some to give their lives to Jesus.

Next Steps / Actions

- Practice daily gratitude: Name recent answered prayers; thank God for present “benefits” and people.
- Shift mindset: Replace entitlement with inheritance—“I get to,” not “I’ve got to.”
- **Clear it: Remove mental clutter, prune unproductive relationships, simplify the calendar, and eliminate distractions that drain focus.**
- **Invest in your inheritance: Work and war within what God already gave—develop gifts, steward relationships, and confront lingering enemies.**
- Seek supports: Engage accountability, AA (Alcoholics Anonymous), Christian counseling, exercise, and other practical helps.
- **Remember right: Reframe past pain by focusing on God’s faithfulness (Manasseh effect) and His history of defeating “chariots.”**
- Act in faith: Identify your specific “them” and take the next concrete step to “drive them out,” trusting “You still can.”

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

AI enabled sermon summary

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

Transcript of Sermon:

- Sing what a friend we have in Jesus. What a friend we have in Jesus. All our sins and griefs to bear. What a privilege to bear. Free things you got in prayer. What peace we all did for. Oh, what peace we all did for. What needless pains we bear And it's all because we do not care You can take Reaping to God in prayer. Amen.
- Opening prayer: **“Join hands with someone right now. Those of you watching online. We're going to pray right now for every need that you might be experiencing. But before we mention those needs. We want to recognize who we're talking to. You are the almighty sovereign God. Lord, we come in your name today because there is no name greater than your name. We come in your name today because your name is over all sickness, all disease, all sin and all shame. The name of Jesus is highly exalted. So we come to you today, father, in the name of Jesus, and we make prayers and petitions, but first with Thanksgiving, we thank you for our lives. We thank you for our breath. We thank you for another day that you allow us to see. We thank you for ways that you've made. We thank you for the blood that you shed for us so that our sins can be forgiven. We thank you for the benefits of knowing you. We thank you for our friendship with you. We thank you for all of the wonderful things that you've allowed our eyes to see, our ears to hear. Thank you, God, for the person standing next to us. Thank you for what you brought them through that they can't even tell anybody about. Thank you for what you're bringing them through right now. They don't know the outcome, but you do. You know the plans you have for us. Plans to prosper us, not to harm us. Plans to give us hope and a future. We declare in the mighty name of Jesus, Jehovah Jireh, meet every need in its place. If it's a physical need, it's met. If it's an emotional need, it's met. If it's wisdom, you give. If it's strength, you've given. And we give you praise because only you can do it. And now, God, I thank you that this is about to be an explosive encounter with your word. I thank you for the faith of each person I'm speaking to today. If it's just a mustard seed of faith, it can move a mountain. You can do anything. You're a great and mighty God. And I give you the praise in Jesus' name.”**
- Somebody clap those hands. Say amen. Glory to God. Glory to God. We're going to stay standing for the reading of God's word, but give out at least 12 hugs and tell somebody, I'm glad you braved the winter weather to make it to church today. What's up, man? You with me? What's up, buddy? What's going on? Hey, while y'all are standing, while y'all are standing, let's give a warm welcome to our entire church family at all of our campuses and online. Hey, welcome, EFAM. I haven't done an EFAM roll call in a while. Put your name and where you're watching from, please, in the chat if you're watching online. And everybody in this place today, be encouraged.
- The Lord has heard your prayers. The Lord has heard your prayers. Tell the person next to you, he heard you. Tell him just because he didn't do it like you wanted him to, doesn't mean he didn't hear you. We were singing a song a moment ago called God, and we said, I call God, and he answered. And some people were like, well, he hadn't yet. I wish he would. But the thing is, he did. So many times before. So many times before, and I'm gonna preach a little bit about this today, but sometimes we adapt to our answered prayers and we cease to appreciate them. But one thing I'm going to be very intentional about from this pulpit in this year is to not let you just walk past stuff that God did in your life without recognizing it, because that's how the enemy weakens you. So you're going to notice me a lot more in my sermons.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

- And when I come up, just turning your attention. Not only to the things that God has done, but who he is. Because that's what you can count on. If your wife divorces you, he'll never leave you or forsake you. If your kids go absolutely prodigal crazy, God is still going to keep you in your right mind. If everybody in your company gets together and boats you off the island, God will take care of you. He will supply your needs. So, I want to connect you today. through a scripture in Joshua chapter 17. And let's do a shout out real quick. I told the people online, hello from Kenya, hello from West Virginia. Now how would you feel to hear me if you had to preach a message that applied in Kenya and West Virginia, all in English today? We're glad to have you. What a robust church we are. I love it, I love it. Welcome Dayton, Ohio. Welcome California. Welcome... Cape Town.
- Welcome Cornelius North Carolina. Well, you should be in church. Just told on yourself. I'm glad you're here today. Well, settle in. God has a word for you. Joshua chapter 17. You haven't noticed you don't hear many sermons passed around Joshua chapter three or four. All the exciting stuff happens kind of in the beginning of the book of Joshua. They're taking the land and they're, you know, they're going forward in the promise of God crossing the Jordan. So we usually preach from that. Well, I'm going all the way to Joshua 17 today. See what happens after that. Now, listen to this because this is where we live in our everyday life. Everyday life is not always exciting new adventures and explorations on the opportunities that await you. Sometimes it's just three Advil and a prayer.
- And I'm sorry, I'm five minutes late, but I'm here anyway. And we're trying to deal with that this year because I preached you last week. That there will always be wheat and there will always be weeds in the garden of your life with God. And I was trying to get you to watch the wheat, not just the weeds, not just looking at the things you can't control and wishing they weren't there, but realizing that what God planted in you is significant. in every season of your life, whether you can see the growth or not. Now in Joshua chapter 17, something interesting happens, and I'll read it and then we'll back into the context. But listen to this. The people of Joseph said to Joshua, why have you given us only one allotment and one portion for an inheritance? Remember they possessed the land that God swore to Abraham and Isaac and Jacob. And they got in the land and won the victory. And the people of Joseph, one of the groups from the nation, comes to Joshua, the leader, and says,
- Why did you only give us one allotment? Look, we are a numerous people and the Lord has blessed us abundantly. Now watch Joshua's response. If you are so numerous, Joshua answered, since you're so blessed, like you say you are, And if the hill country of Ephraim is too small for you, go up into the forest and clear land for yourselves there in the land of the Perizzites and the Rephites. Those are their enemies. The people of Joseph replied, the hill country is not enough for us. And all the Canaanites who live in the plain have chariots fitted with iron, both those in Beth-shan and its settlements and those in the valley of Jezreel. But Joshua said to the tribes of Joseph, to Ephraim and Manasseh, to Ephraim and Manasseh, you are numerous and very powerful. You will have not only one allotment, but the forested hill country as well. Now lean into this. Clear it and its farthest limits will be yours.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

- Though the Canaanites have chariots, fitted with iron, and though they are strong, you can drive them out. Thank the Lord for His Word one time, would you? Come on, right there, thank Him for His Word. My message today is called, Don't Forget Where You Come From. Look at three people and say, Don't forget where you come from. Don't forget where you come from. Amen. You may be seated. Don't forget where you come from, Kenya or West Virginia. Or like me, maybe you came from Moncks Corner, South Carolina. Boy, somebody said something to me the other day I never thought I'd hear. They said the traffic is terrible in Moncks Corner. It has changed a lot since I was there. Bad traffic in Moncks Corner when I was a boy made you have to wait through the red light once at rush hour.
- But I guess it's growing, you know, it's really expanding. And it is, it is, it is. It's all the population that's pushing it. Anyway, I want to tell you the geography of Charleston and the low country of South Carolina. By the way, welcome to our newest campus in Somerville, South Carolina. And you all know I love Jesus because Somerville was our rival in high school. We were the Berkeley Stags and we hated the Somerville Greenway. And now God has prepared a table in the presence of my enemies. Thank you so much. Well, we love you. No, no, the reason I bring up where you come from is because everybody in here has a point of reference. For what you think is successful in your life, you have a point of reference. If you never had \$500 in your bank account before, the first \$500 feels amazing. It's a point of reference. If you're 73 years old and hoping to retire next year, \$500 is...
- There's not a prayer warrior in the world that can turn \$500 into a retirement account, but it's your point of reference. I remember the first bonus that I got when I was working at a church in Shelbyville, Carolina. And Rick Bowling told me, by the way, we're giving a \$500 bonus to all of our employees this Christmas. And I literally cried. 22-year-old, 23-year-old men just crying over \$500. Sometimes I wish I could still cry that he's because there was something about that stage in my life where I wasn't expecting a bonus. I remember when he first sat me down and explained my salary package to me, he was like, Oh, this is how much we're going to pay you this year. And of course that doesn't include the benefits. And I said, the what? He said the benefits. And this is how unschooled I was because my dad was self-employed. I didn't even know what benefits were.
- I didn't know that that's something that you can negotiate. into a, I wasn't negotiating, I was just thankful. I was like, benefits, he's like, yeah, the benefits, that's gonna be additional to this amount. You know, it's been a while since I praised God for my health insurance. Because I had it too long. I had it too long. Sometimes I let three days go by and don't tell Holly how pretty she is, but that's wrong. Because she's pretty every day. She deserves to be told that every day. Plus, I spend too much on those clothes she's wearing not to compliment how she looks. And that \$280 makeup that's in her bathroom, whatever, I'm spending over there at Sephora. I feel like she deserves to hear it. When we were dating, it was just constantly every day.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

- But one thing I noticed in the text that we read is that when you forget how far you've come from a certain point, it makes how far you have to go the only thing that you're focused on. And when you forget the gifts that God has given you, it makes it impossible for you to access the power that he put inside of you. Don't forget where you come from. Don't forget that there was a time that a \$500 Christmas bonus made you cry. Don't forget that there was a time when you prayed that God would give you these children that you're praying for him to help you. not to eliminate from the face of the earth at this very moment. Don't forget where you come from. We see an interesting dynamic in Joshua chapter 17 in that these tribes, the people of Joseph, it's actually two tribes, one is called Manasseh and one is called Ephraim, those were Joseph's boys.
- Manasseh was his firstborn, Ephraim was his second, and both of them were born in Egypt, in the place where he suffered. in the place where he was falsely accused, in the place where he was thrown into prison, in the place where God also raised him to prominence. In Egypt, he had two boys, Manasseh and Ephraim. And those boys have now, several generations later, turned into tribes. And these tribes have taken territory in the land of Canaan. And not only have they settled into the land, but they've started to grow and do what people do. When two people love each other very much, so they've grown. I'll talk with you later. It's just that they're blessed so much that they are experiencing the pressure of blessing. Many times in church, we only speak to the desperation of failure. But there is a need to preach to the pressure of blessings. Because blessings are heavy in your life. Sometimes when you're going through all of the things that you're worried about, it's not even so much that you're complaining about them or that you don't appreciate them. It's that pressure has kept your perspective from seeing the bigger picture of what's happening. So you get zoned in on only one thing.
- And you forget, like the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh, that just a few years ago, you were wandering in the wilderness. That's kind of why when I read this scripture, it stood out to me. Because when I read it, I wanted to say to them, you just left the wilderness, and now you're complaining that there's not enough room for you? Did you notice what they said to Joshua? Why did you only give us one allotment? We're too big for this place. We need more elbow room. We need new countertops. We need hardwood floors. We need more space. We need a mini van. You know, we're a growing nation. It's getting bigger in Moncks Corner. The traffic is terrible in Monk's Corner. Everything in the text is growing. And while everything is growing, their perspective is narrowing. And all they can see is the space that they don't have. And so they come to Joshua and the people of Joseph. In Genesis, or excuse me, in Joshua chapter 17, verse 14, say, Why have you only given us one allotment? We're a numerous people and the Lord has blessed us abundantly.
- But just because he blessed us doesn't mean we don't have pressure. Just because I have money doesn't mean I know how to manage it. Just because God gave me a job doesn't mean I don't get tired. Just because God sent people to my ministry doesn't mean I always have a message to give them when they show up. Blessings create pressure. If pressure is not dealt with, pressure can create self-pity. Self-pity, if not dealt with, can create a situation where you are in this state of, watch this, Too much and not enough. That's what they said in verse 16. They said, we do not have enough land. The land that you gave us is not enough for us. And the people are too much for the land that is not enough. I felt like when I studied, I'd be preaching to somebody today who would understand this tension of too much and not enough. Too much and not enough. This is why we toss and turn because it's too much and not enough. Too much to do and not enough in my tank to do it. That's called burnout. Too much of people calling me and not enough patients to listen to their problems.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

- Too much bills and not enough income to answer the bills when they knock at the door. Too much on my mind and not enough in my life that makes me feel happy and recharged. Too much demand, not enough supply. Too many people sucking energy out of me, and not enough people supplying it. Too many people asking, and not enough people offering. Too many things wrong, and not enough things working out. Too much, and not enough. That's what they said. Look at verse 16, it's in the Bible. They said, the land you gave us, verse 16, It's not enough. It's not enough. Alright, let's talk about that for a minute. It's not enough. I'm not gifted enough. I'm not talented enough. I'm not experienced enough.
- I told you during the same lies in the loop series that the devil only has two lies that he puts on the loop in your mind. And one is I'm not loved, and one is not enough. So that's why you wake up in the morning feeling like, well, what's on my agenda for today is too much, and the time I have to do it in is not enough. That's what I'm using this land to represent. If you thought I was going to teach a real estate seminar off of Joshua chapter 17, that's not my expertise. I'm trying to teach a real life seminar about why you're snapping at the wrong people. I'm trying to teach a real life seminar about why you don't look forward to some of the stuff that God actually gave you through this favor. I'm trying to teach a real life seminar about how you could be so blessed. Did you notice the tribes? They said, we are so blessed. And I dare somebody to just say it by faith.
- Say, I'm so blessed. I am so blessed. Say it with a head shake. Say, I am so blessed. Matter of fact, do this at every campus and especially at Ballot Time. Look at the person on either side of you and say, you are so blessed. Tell them, I am so blessed. You are so blessed. Matter of fact, start doing like this because I'm so blessed. I need some elbow room. I'm so blessed. I need you to scoot over a little bit. I'm so blessed. You better get out of my way. I'm so blessed. Because if I think for a minute about that \$500 bonus and how much God has done for me since then, if I think for a minute... about how he kept me upright on my feet and in my right mind. You better give me some room, because if I think for one minute about how I called, and he answered, and he came through like only he could. Just let your neighbor say, we're so blessed. Getting more blessed every day. I'm spreading out my tent in this season. I'm driving down my stakes in this season. Because I'm so blessed.
- That's why I'm tired. Because God blessed me. What a perspective. And now the land I have is not enough. And so now your prayer request is about all your praise reports. Did that make sense? I prayed for it. I got it. It's a blessing. It creates pressure. And the decision in this season of your life is this. What do I do with the pressure? What do I do about the not enough? Why do I feel like it's not enough? Why, when God sends an opportunity into my life, do I reject it and send it away? Because I think I can't do it. Why do I send people who love me away? And push people who care about me away. And reach for things that destroy me.
- Why am I still in this season of my life struggling with something that I've prayed about since I was a teenager? Is there not enough of God's power to deliver me? Do I have not enough faith to receive me? What's the problem here? Well, Joshua gets a real, I call this a dad energy with these jobs. This is me and Holly, we're totally different in our parenting approach, totally different. I told you last week, if my kids run out the house without a coat, I'm like, cool. She's like, you mean a freeze? I'm like, they're not gonna freeze. First of all, first of all, they're not gonna freeze. If they do, it will be a memory in their life that will create maturity for their future. So I'm just building memories. I'm building memories of the time that your dumb self left without your coat and almost froze to death. And then maybe one day you'll give money to somebody who doesn't have a coat so they can buy one. So I'm promoting generosity. I'm teaching you good stewardship and responsibility.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

- All by just letting you be an idiot. The other day, Holly was telling me her schedule for the day. I said, what do you have the rest of the day? She said, well, all three kids have a dentist appointment. I said, what does that have to do with you? I understand Abby, she can't drive yet, but Graham's 18. Elijah's about to be 21 years old of age in the United States of America. What does his dentist appointment have to do with you at this stage in your life? And she's like, if I don't remind them, they'll forget. And I'm like, and then what? Well, and then the dentist has to charge me. And I'm like, but can't you take it out of their account? And she's like, well, yeah, maybe, I guess so. I didn't think about it like that. And then I thought, well, if their teeth start falling out, I want you to let enough teeth fall out of their mouth. that they don't need you to follow them to the dentist when they're 47 years old. This is not a good path. Because if I gotta sit at the dentist office to make sure you're here, you got a beard and I'm taking you to the dentist? Help me praise the Lord. All the dads in the house.
- Chops are like, so you want more land? Now listen, I need to tell you something, The land that they had, it was the second biggest piece given to all of the tribes. The only one bigger was Judah. So when they come to Joshua and they're like, hey, we don't have enough land, Joshua's like, it's interesting you should say that. Because I noticed that when I gave you the land, there were some parts of the land that you did not occupy. I noticed that when I assigned you the acreage, you had the second biggest plot of land. any of the tribes. So if you want more room, if you really need more space, instead of asking for more land, when you've already been given the second largest piece of land, can I stop for a moment? Somebody else would die to trade places with you in your life.
- Somebody else would give all the money in their bank account to have the peace that you have in your home. Somebody else would give their entire career just to have the relationship that you have. And it is true that when we are under pressure, we lose perspective. And it is also true that God has given us a lot more than we have occupied. So Joshua says, if you are so numerous, verse 15, and if the hill country is, Of Ephraim, the place where you are is too small for you because when they settled in, some of the land was already developed. Because Canaanites were living there. So when they moved in, they were like, cool, this is great. This is great. But then after a while, all the land that was producing, it was a very fertile piece of land. Don't get it twisted.
- They didn't get any land that was like second rate. This was not scraps. This was good land. But they got in there and they eventually started to outgrow it. And then they eventually began to grumble because they had grown. And so they started to grumble about their growth. And they started to grumble about the gift that God had given. And you just want to slap them real quick. Just slap them real quick. Like, really? You came from the wilderness? Really? God gave you the second largest piece of land? And all you can think of to say is, I want more? Really? Sometimes I want to slap myself when I hear the things that I complain about. And here's what I've noticed. Without a constant focus on the goodness of God, without a constant focus on the goodness of God, it is easy for me to go from inheritance to entitlement. Inheritance to entitlement.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

- Look at this that Paul prayed in Ephesians. Chapter 1. Put it on the screen, please. He said, I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people. So Ephesians is telling us spiritually what Joshua is showing us physically, that you have an inheritance. But notice the verse again. Put it on the screen for another moment. where he says, I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened to know the riches of the inheritance you already have. Here is what Paul did not pray. Check the scripture. He did not pray that God would give you an inheritance because you already have one. What he prayed instead was so specific, he said, I pray that you would be able to see clearly what God has already given you freely. So this is the shift. Inheritance says, God gave me this. God gave me this responsibility to preach today. I get to do it. Entitlement says, I've got to do it. Inheritance says, God has given me the privilege to minister to these precious people. Y'all don't even know how much I love doing this. Y'all don't even know how much it matters to me. Y'all don't even know how much. I wake up at 2.30 on Sundays and say, go back to sleep. You're going to need your energy. And then it's 2.45 and it's 3 and it's 3.15 and it's 3.30 and finally say, I can't sleep. I might as well get up and start thinking about it. And then by about 3.45, I'm preaching it out loud. So I know the kids think that's going crazy downstairs again, but I don't care because God gave me this mantle. And I'm going to tell you something else. I prayed hard for this.
- And I sacrificed for this. But it wasn't my sacrifice. It was His sovereignty that gave it to me. Because I could not earn this. And some of us know that it was not by might. And not by power. And not by intelligence. And not by connections. And not by networking. And not by pedigree. And not by GPA. And not by your skill. But by His grace. That I am what I am. Wow. Thank you, Lord. Thank you, God. Thank you, I've got kids to worry about. Thank you, I've got a spouse to fight with. Thank you, I've got clothes to get dirty and have to wash them again. Thank you, I've got dishes to yell at somebody for leaving them to sink. Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, I've got a toilet to get clogged up. I remember where I came from. Slap yourself and say, really? You're fussing about this? You forgot where you came from. You were in a wilderness. You were in your sin. You were in chains.
- You begged God. God, if you'll take me, if you'll use me, I'll do anything for you. And has inheritance mentality become entitlement mentality in your life? Fussing because the coffee's cold. Fussing because it buffered for 23 seconds. Boy, you better remember that card catalog you used to have to go through to find out information. And now you're mad because chat GPT took 12 seconds to think? Don't forget where you... I come from Moncks Corner, South Carolina. That's why I cannot be discouraged when I stand up in front of large crowds to preach. Because when I look at the size of the crowd and realize the town I came from, I'm like, oh yeah, it was you, God. It was you. I mean, this makes no sense. This is just absolutely stupid. And I'm so grateful that you used the foolish things of the world to confound the wise. Now I need to rush past this point because I have another point to make.
- Maybe this would be a good challenge for you to put in front of your family this week. Have we allowed inheritance, what God gave us, to be replaced with entitlement? Because it's not enough and too much. Not enough. You've got the blood of Jesus. One drop of His blood is enough to cleanse you from what you did Thursday. One drop of his blood can erase the shame of how you spent the years between 2020 and 2025. One drop of his blood. Holly said they've been sending pictures around online of 2016. She said, you need to know, there's a trend all over Instagram, at least for middle-aged white women, that everybody's sending around pictures of 2016 and something like 2026 is the new 2016 or something. And then she was right.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

- Everybody started sending me pictures of where they were in 2016, I started getting them randomly on my phone. People were sending me, I'm not even on Instagram, and I'm getting pictures on my phone. 2016, 2016, 2016, 2016. And I thought, that's crazy, where was I in 2016? I pulled something up, this is the first Sunday grand opening in our Ballantyne building in 2016. Thank you. And it was supposed to happen in 2014. But it was on a two-year delay. The building I preach from, by the way, if you're in Kenya, you probably don't know what I'm talking about when I say ballot time. The building that I broadcast from, where we reach into your home and where we reach into prisons, and where we send messages into rehabs, and where we send messages into hospital rooms, and where we send podcasts into cars of parents driving their kids around all day, and athletes that are getting all the ministry. It comes from right here at Ballantyne to all of our other campuses, and we were opening it 2016, and we were having the best time, kind of. Show them the other picture.
- This is the one that was next to it on my phone. And there's me and Holly. And she looks like blessing and I look like pressure. Ain't that right? Would you say I captioned that correctly? Because for me, I was jet lagged that Sunday morning. And for me, I had just gotten back from Australia. And for me, the headlines were all about a potential place of civil unrest in our nation. And for me, my best friend was getting fired from pastoring this church. And so between the 9.30 and the 11.30, I was talking to him on the phone before I came out to preach again because I was scared about whether he was in a safe place emotionally or not. So now you understand the picture back up again. Why she's smiling and I'm like... She's like, God is good all the time. And I'm like... She's like, this is an amazing day. Now, obviously that's just a really unfortunate capture of my face in that moment. I don't know what I was really thinking. You fired that photographer, by the way. Captured that moment. I'm kidding.
- I just want to give you a visual for a moment here as we talk about Joseph and Ephraim and Manasseh. And as we talk about your life, and as we talk about forgetting where you come from, and when we talk about your past, the things that you remember. And when we talk about the challenge that you're facing, remember, the people of Joseph, the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh came to Joshua and said, it's too much and it's not enough. And Joshua said, it is enough. There is all of this territory that you were given, but it's forest territory. And it's covered not only in trees, but there are Canaanites that are there which represent the enemies, that you did not drive out of the land yet. And so God has given you an inheritance, but to develop in that, it's going to take two things, work and war. It's gonna take work and it's gonna take war.
- **I heard an old self-motivation talk parable about a farmer who had a beautiful piece of property. It was so lush, man. The gardens were just beautiful and flourishing, and the cows were fat, and the white gravel driveway was lined with the prettiest trees you ever saw. And it did look like a new farm, but it looked like a love farm, a farm that had received a lot of attention. And a preacher drove by the farm one day, and he was so absolutely enchanted with the farm that he had to meet the farmer. And the farmer came over on the tractor, turned off the tractor for a moment and said, to the preacher, can I help you? And the preacher said, I was just admiring your property. What a beautiful piece of property the Lord gave you. And the farmer said, yes, it is very beautiful. And we're grateful. But preacher, you should have seen this place when the Lord had it all to himself.**

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

- You didn't just get that marriage. They didn't just get that body. They didn't just get that financial situation. They didn't just get that influence. They were in the field keeping sheep before Goliath ever showed up. They were developing it. Question is, are you investing into what you inherited in your life? If it's a gift, are you investing in it? If it's a relationship, are you maintaining it? Are you working with what God gave you or simply complaining how it's not enough? Because I'm going to tell you, it is enough. It is enough. It just hasn't had the time yet in your life to develop into what it needs to be.
- So I came to declare a message today. It is enough, but it is going to take faith on your part. God is not simply going to drive out every enemy in your life. God is not simply going to chop down every tree in your life. God is not simply going to disrupt every bad habit in your life. We pray for deliverance. I believe in deliverance, but I also believe in support groups. I said I also believe in AA. I said I also believe in accountability. I said I also believe in Christian counseling. I said I also believe in starting to exercise. I said I also believe in act deletion. See, the thing about some of us is we are praying for peace in areas where we are unwilling to clear out trees.
- How can it grow? How can it grow? It has nowhere to grow. And the problem is not that I need more time. The problem is that I need more priorities. Because God gave me enough time for what He called me to do. So I declare in this year of my life, it's the year that I do what Joshua told the people of Joseph to do. Listen to this. He said, you have enough, doesn't feel like enough. You have enough, doesn't look like enough. There's all these trees. There's all these enemies. There's all these things that you have not confronted yet. But behind what you have been unwilling to confront, is the answer to the prayer that you seek. I am preaching prophetically to somebody. Give me verse 17. Joshua said to the people. To Ephraim and Manasseh.
- You are numerous. And very powerful. You will have not only one allotment. You are two tribes. But you can have the forested country too. There is more for you to enjoy. There is more for you to experience in God. There is more. You can be happy again. You can rejoice again. You can have meaning in your day again. You can have it if you clear it. Somebody shout clear it. Stick that over your mind this year. Clear it. I got to clear it. I'm praying for peace, but I'm not clearing my mind. How can I stuff my mind full of junk and then ask Jesus to fill the space that's already filled with junk? Somebody shout, clear it. It might have to be cleared in your life of some unproductive relationships this year. There are so many roots that can drink water in your yard. any more than those roots and you are not going to have the rain you need for what God is planting somebody shout clear it and don't even apologize to people if you have to if you have to cut off some communication this year that's alright it's not rude it's righteous because I gotta clear it this year because God has more for me yeah I'm sorry I didn't get back with you I gotta get clear this year I'm sorry I didn't snap you back.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

- I got to get clear this year. Because what God gave me, what God is doing through me, what God promised me, clear it. Clear it. Clear it. Clear it. Clear it for mine this year. This may be the season for you to stop focusing on what would have been. You are so full of regret that you cannot see what is right in front of you. Oh, yes, Lord, thank you for reminding me. The word of the Lord, he says, you still can. You still can. Because the lie that starts to clutter up your mind is, is too late. Oh, look at the mistakes you made. How many of you have that going on in your mind in an area right now? Like if I would have just given it more attention, that may be true. You may have missed the opportunity. You may not have done it when you should have done it, but you still can. You still can. I wish I would have lived for God in college. Well, you are 79 now. You still can live for God and leave a legacy. Somebody shout, I still can. You can if you get clear, but if you stay, in what it was in a previous season of your life, you will have more available to you and you will die for the lack of what Jesus died to put in your life. Clear it. Clear it.
- Tell the devil, we are not having this conversation again. Clear it. Yes, I'm talking about your calendar. You need to clear it up a little bit. It's got a little too much stuff on it that you're doing to impress people, and it's not making an impact. Clearly. Clearly. Let me talk to a leader, because pastors watch me preach. Some of the people that you are running around trying to please by preaching the sermons that they want so bad, they're not supposed to be a part of your church in this season. And if you don't stop preaching to the people who are threatening to leave, you cannot reach the people that God has created. Clear it. Clear it. This might be a prophetic word about your shopping cart on Amazon. Clear it. You ain't buying none of it this year. We're getting out of debt this year. We're gonna... Lost all the shouts, LJ. No organ necessary on that point. And if you can clear it, You can conquer it.
- You remember I said we were two years late getting in this building? One of the reasons that we were so far behind getting in on this building was because the Environmental Protection Agency told us that there was a possibility that a Carolina heel splitter clam was on the property. And they said that this clam, or muscle I think it was, but I'm going to call it a clam because it sounds better what I'm trying to say. This one little clam kept us from building this whole big church. For six months, we could not clear the land because of a clam. You realize how many times a little thing in your life keeps you from building? A little thing? One person you don't want to make mad. One thing you don't want to be judged about. One uncomfortable moment you don't want to push through.
- One phone call you don't want to make. So you're just going to let dread eat you up like cancer for six months? Because of a clam? The devil doesn't even really have to put a clam on your land. He can just tell you there may be a clam. They may laugh at you. It may not work. You may look stupid. This may backfire. Your kid may end up. Your mom may. It's not even there, but you're not building. So we get to the heart of the issue at this moment in the text. We're the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh. Ephraim and Manasseh. Let's look at the moment that these boys were born. Now remember, just to be clear, it's been generations since Ephraim and Manasseh were born to Joseph. So these people didn't know Joseph.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

- They were Joseph's great, great, great, great, great, great, great, great, great children. Ibram and Manasseh were his children. Now look in Genesis 41, verse 50. It's going back in time to when Joseph was in Egypt, and he was starting to serve as an administrator in Pharaoh's palace. The Bible says he rode in the second chariot in command of Pharaoh. But it says before the years of famine came, after everything Joseph had been through, imprisonment, accusation, abandonment, the people who were supposed to remember him, forgetting him, The Bible says, before the years of famine came, two sons were born to Joseph by Asenab, daughter of Potiphar, priest of On. Joseph named his firstborn Manasseh. Manasseh. And he said, it's because God has made me forget all my trouble. Everybody say forget. Forget. Say it out loud. Forget. Forget. Put it in the comments.
- Forget. Forget. Forget. Forget. The title of this message is don't forget where you come from. And when Joseph had his first baby, after all the suffering, after all the hardship, after all the misdirection, after all the delay, after all of the things that went wrong in his life, and finally God gave him... an opportunity in a child. He looked at the child and he held the child in a place that he never intended to be in a place that he never planned to be. And that may be you right now. I didn't plan to be here, but he looked at the baby and in deciding what to name the baby, he named the baby Manasseh, which means to forget. He said, I'm naming this baby Manasseh because God has made me forget all my trouble. and all my father's household. Stop right there.
- He named the baby Manasseh, which means forget. Not because the memory left him of the pain that he went through. It's just that in that moment, what God was doing in his life was so significant that it made what he had been through small in comparison. So he says, I'm gonna name this child forget. Not because the memory left me, but because I'm choosing to remember it different. I'm going to remember it different. What I've been through, what I've suffered from, I no longer see it as being sold into slavery. I see it as God sending me here, and I am forgetting what is behind me so I can press toward what is ahead. The name Manasseh means forget. How many of you have ever heard of something called the Mandela Effect? Yeah, have you heard of this? It's named after Nelson Mandela, of course, who was president of South Africa. But it's named because a group of people collectively were documented as remembering Nelson Mandela dying in the 1980s. So check this out.
- A woman did research, and she found out that there were large groups of people in the thousands. until the year 2013 but they remembered it as if he did they remembered somehow some fragmented misinformation and they remembered Nelson Mandela died in prison in the 80s there were so many people who remembered that wrong that they named an entire phenomenon psychologically the Mandela effect and now the phrase the Mandela effect is used to describe many things some not as significant as the death of a leader For instance, how many of you remember the line from the movie Star Wars when Darth Vader revealed his real identity? What did he say? What did he say? Now, thousands of you remember Luke, I am your father. But if you check the DVD, old school, if you check the movie... He doesn't say, Luke, I am your father. He says, no, I am your father. That freaked me out when I heard that. I thought, all these years, I thought he said, Luke, I am your father. He didn't say Luke. He said, no, how did I remember it so different than it actually happened? It's the Mandela effect.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

- Or the peanut butter that starts with the letter J. What's it called? No, there's no why on it. It's just jiff. It's not jiffy. You remember jiffy, don't you? I remember jiffy too. I thought it was jiffy. All my life I thought it was jiffy. It's not jiffy. It wasn't jiffy. It never has been jiffy. Somebody just called it jiffy like they call it Walmarts and Revelations. And we all run around calling it jiffy. But it was never jiffy. It's the Mandela Effect. I remember it different than it actually happened. I came to preach today about the Manasso. is when you've been through hell and you've gone through some trouble and some people have let you down and life has put you in a crowded space and you feel like not enough and you don't know what's next but you decide in your mind I'm going to remember it different and rather than focusing on how they forgot me I'm going to focus on how I I'm a father who never did, who never failed, who never cared.
- Show your neighbor, say, remember it different. Bless the Lord, oh my soul, and all that is within me. Bless the Lord, oh my soul, and forget not all his. I'm choosing to forget some things so I can clear out some space so I can receive some things that God has given me. Clear it out. Clear it out. Clear it out. Clear it out. It's the Manasseh effect. Here it is. God can do one thing in your life. God can send one person in your life. God can send one opportunity in your life. That will make you forget everything you went through to be in this place. Make you forget about how bad it hurt every time they said no. Make you forget about all the years you thought it was never going to happen. It will make you thank Him for all the things that didn't come to pass. Because you'll say, if I wasn't here, I couldn't have had this. God is working in your life.
- His word does not return void. He has given you more than enough. When you say, I remember when we opened this building. And I remember that we were late. But I choose to remember that even though we were late getting in, God did it. I choose to remember that even though it didn't unfold according to my schedule, it unfolded according to His sovereign purpose. And I am preaching about the Manasseh event. Because now, generations later, the tribe that is named after the boy who made Joseph... They have forgotten. Joseph forgot his pain. But they forgot their power. And Joshua had to remind them. He said, you are very powerful. And I have to remind you of that every week that the Holy Spirit lives in you and you are very powerful. I have to remind you of that every week that Jesus Christ, who was raised from the dead, lives in you and that power works in you. And because of that, you are very powerful. Don't give me all this self-empowerment stuff. I don't need any of that. I got the Holy Spirit. I got the Holy Spirit.
- You don't have to hide me up to believe I'm worthy. Jesus died for me. He's worthy. I'm very powerful. And it's a beautiful thing when you remember where you came from. Right? Because see, they were complaining about the chariots, right? They said, we can't go into that land. They have chariots. Everybody say chariots. Come on, work with me. Say chariots. This is the Manasseh effect. They have misremembered things because they are scared of chariots. But I seem to remember a time in the Bible where God dealt with some chariots. I seem to remember a time in the Bible when God's people were coming out of Egypt. and the Red Sea stood between them and their freedom. And I seem to remember that the chariots of Pharaoh were coming up back behind them. And I seem to remember that just at the moment when it looked like the chariots were going to overtake them, what's that? God closed the sea over the chariots. So God sent me to remind you, this is not your first time calling on His name. This is not your first time needing His help. Remember where you come from.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

- You come from a God who opens red seals. You come from a faith where a stick can split a body of water. You come from a lineage of believers that can climb over walls and shout and they fall down. So let me remind you something about you today. You are very powerful. You are very capable. You are very strong. You defy the odds. You are not one of them. You are not like them. You are not subject to this. And don't let what you are facing make you forget who you are. High five three people. Say don't forget where you come from. Don't forget where you come from. The tribe of Manasseh stood before Joshua and verse 18. He said something that I've been declaring over our church all week. He said, if you clear it, you can claim it. That was for you, dude. If you clear it, you can claim it. Even though they have chariots, God says, I am an expert in overpowering chariots. Holly, do you hear what I'm preaching there? Because I'm trying to say, after all God did for us up to this point in our ministry, how could we ever doubt him again? You're talking about chariots? God doesn't care about chariots. God drowns chariots.
- Yes. God will jam the wheels of a chariot. You talking about chariots? You talking about the economy? God will make it rain. If it's not raining anywhere else, he'll make it rain. In Goshen, you talking about chariots? God will make a way through the sea. And if you're clear, you can claim it. I came to tell you today, you can. Verse 18, you can drive them out. Stand to your feet and give God a praise today. Thank you. Thank you, Jesus. Let me talk to you for a moment. You still can. You still can. They said, we're in this land. We're crowded. We're surrounded by enemies. And Joshua said, you still can drive your mountain. You know, it's important for me to remember that every promise that God gives me comes with enemies still living in it. All of the wheat that God gives me guarantees that there will be wheat all around. I came with the message from the word of the Lord that you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you. And you can drive them out. You can make a different decision.
- You can reach for something other than that bottle. You can drive them out. Because greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world. You can drive them out. Now what's happened to a lot of us is we've gotten too comfortable. With the Canaanites. So we've gotten in small places. But you can drive them out. You can forgive that person who hurt you. You can drive them out. You can. It's going to be a process. But you can drive them out. You can. You can absolutely repair that relationship. If God means for that relationship to be in your life. You can drive them out. You can get this health issue under control. You can drive them out. You can apologize. You can drive them out. But the problem with us becomes that we forget that we have a God who specializes in defeating chariots.
- The chariots won't stop you. They won't stop God. You can drive them out. Now, the challenge of this message, only you know what your them is. I don't, all I can tell you is I know a God who is greater than any of them that you can name. This is the Manasseh effect. I'm praying that rather than misremembering something, I'm praying that you would remember it right today and remember how much God has done to bring you to this point. and take that forward with you into your future. Because honestly, I don't just want to preach another sermon, and then you go live among Canaanites all week, and don't believe you can drive them out. I want something for Monday, when that anxiety comes strong, you hear the voice of God in your heart saying, you can drive that out. You can breathe through that. You can move through that. You have other options for that.
- You can. Drive them out. The next time you want to explode and go off and just freak out, I don't have to be a slave to anger. You can drive them out. Because you're not in this by yourself. And I want to pray for you right now. Because I know there are some things in your land and in your life where you have either become entitled or you have allowed your insecurity to keep you from being what God has called you to be. And you know what? I can always tell where I get to a point in a message where you have a decision to make.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

- Are you really going to believe what God is saying to you? Or are you going to go back home and talk to him about the chariots for the rest of 2026?
- I want to pray for you. There is so much that Jesus Christ saved you for. There is so much that he sees in you, so much that you can't see in yourself. But if you can clear it, it's yours. Boy, I'm praying that your mind would get peaceful right about now. Just the peace, God, fill your heart and your mind. Heads bowed, eyes closed. Father, thank you for the word that you gave us today. Don't forget where you come from. Thank you for reminding us to be grateful. Thank you for encouraging us to be strong. Lord, if there's anything I've learned in my walk with you, it's that we can't drive it out without your help. And we try so hard. And we try everything but you.
- But right now, in the name of Jesus, I join my faith with each and every man, woman, boy, and girl who is living in a place today, and let's confess it together, we all have something, but God, you are greater than whatever it is. So Father, in Jesus' name, I pray that there would be a remembrance in your presence today, not only of what you've done, but of who you are. God, I thank you for every way that you have made for us. I thank you for all the times that you have shown yourself strong. And now God, I declare over your people. They are very powerful in your name. They are very strong. God, I thank you for how you bless them and how you will continue to bless them. And now, Lord, as we continue into this time of ministry, I pray that no heart would be untouched.

Part 2: eGroup study questions

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

- **“Inheritance says, ‘I get to do it.’ Entitlement says, ‘I’ve got to do it.’” What’s one responsibility you want to start approaching with an “I get to” attitude?**

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

- **“Are you investing into what you inherited?” What has God entrusted you with and how can you invest in it with more intentionality this week?**

- **“Blessings create pressure (more people, responsibility, and complexity) that can narrow perspective to what’s lacking, leading to self-pity and the loop of “not enough.”**

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Sermon notes - Don't Forget Where You Come From – Pastor Steven Furtick - January 18, 2026

- **Clear it: Remove mental clutter, prune unproductive relationships, simplify the calendar, and eliminate distractions that drain focus.**
- **Invest in your inheritance: Work and war within what God already gave—develop gifts, steward relationships, and confront lingering enemies.**

- **“I heard an old self-motivation talk parable about a farmer who had a beautiful piece of property. It was so lush, man. The gardens were just beautiful and flourishing, and the cows were fat, and the white gravel driveway was lined with the prettiest trees you ever saw. And it did look like a new farm, but it looked like a love farm, a farm that had received a lot of attention. And a preacher drove by the farm one day, and he was so absolutely enchanted with the farm that he had to meet the farmer. And the farmer came over on the tractor, turned off the tractor for a moment and said, to the preacher, can I help you? And the preacher said, I was just admiring your property. What a beautiful piece of property the Lord gave you. And the farmer said, yes, it is very beautiful. And we're grateful. But preacher, you should have seen this place when the Lord had it all to himself.”**

- **Closing Prayer 1** “I want to pray for you. There is so much that Jesus Christ saved you for. There is so much that he sees in you, so much that you can't see in yourself. But if you can clear it, it's yours. Boy, I'm praying that your mind would get peaceful right about now. Just the peace, God, fill your heart and your mind. Heads bowed, eyes closed. Father, thank you for the word that you gave us today. Don't forget where you come from. Thank you for reminding us to be grateful. Thank you for encouraging us to be strong. Lord, if there's anything I've learned in my walk with you, it's that we can't drive it out without your help. And we try so hard. And we try everything but you.”

- **Closing Prayer 2: “But right now, in the name of Jesus, I join my faith with each and every man, woman, boy, and girl who is living in a place today, and let's confess it together, we all have something, but God, you are greater than whatever it is. So Father, in Jesus' name, I pray that there would be a remembrance in your presence today, not only of what you've done, but of who you are. God, I thank you for every way that you have made for us. I thank you for all the times that you have shown yourself strong. And now God, I declare over your people. They are very powerful in your name. They are very strong. God, I thank you for how you bless them and how you will continue to bless them. And now, Lord, as we continue into this time of ministry, I pray that no heart would be untouched.”**

Back up slides

In August 2017, Pastor Furtick led a study of David called “Bars and Battles.” I think Pastor Furtick’s sermon this weekend “Not as Long as My Song” builds of this prior series. On August 13, 2017, Pastor Furtick said this while unpacking Psalm 142 and 1 Sam 22 – where Saul is trying to kill David: “We have to learn to trust God and keep our hand on the harp. This means that the weapons of our warfare are not carnal (fleshy or bodily), they are mighty through God for the pulling down of strong-holds – so it might not look like much – but our worship is our weapon. If you humble yourself under the mighty hand of God, and trust him – no matter what is coming at your head, no matter what is coming at your life – if you trust him and duck – and trust him and pray – the hand of God is on your life. Therefore, if you can win the battle here (your heart) – if you can get down low enough to say God I need you – and realize that the real battle is not with Saul – it is with self. Before David become a king and before God calls us to do what we are supposed to do, we need to learn to do the hardest thing to do – to depend. The easiest thing for David to do was to fight – this came naturally to him – the hardest thing for David to do was to be humble and depend – where David has to depend on the hand of God for the spear to miss him.” Kev note: Dang that is good!



Oswald Chambers

July 18 – Daily Devotional:

“There is nothing miraculous about the things that we can explain. We command what we are able to explain, consequently it is natural to seek to explain. It is not natural to obey; nor is necessarily sinful to disobey. If one man says to another – You must and you shall, he brakes the human spirit and unfits it for God. Many a soul begins to come to God when he flings off being religious, because, there is only one master of the human heart, and that is not religion but Jesus Christ. But woe be to me if when I see Him I say – I will not. He will never insist that I do, but I have begun to sign the death warrant of the Son of God in my soul. When I stand face to face with Jesus Chris and say – I will not, **He will never insist, but I am backing away form the re-creating power of His redemption.**

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Sermon Discussion: "Allow Joy To Reintroduce Himself" by Tauren Wells on May 25, 2025



Dr. Timothy Keller

total freedom = lack of meaning and significance

What if we found the reason for life? Why we were created? Why we were designed? And conformed to that and then honored that?

If there is a design, there is a designer. And if there is a designer, the logos has come. Not some abstract philosophical principle. **It is a person.**

The designer has punched a hole into the world and he has descended. And you were built not to just honor some philosophical principle. But you were built to know and love this divine person. When you know him and when you serve him and you find out what he built you for, when you comply with it and submit yourself to him, you find out who you are. And you are now able to reach your potential.

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.”