

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?
- New album release on 2/20/2026 – “So Be It” – Outstanding
- Good Friday and Easter:
 - A SPECIAL GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNION EXPERIENCE ON FRIDAY, APRIL 3
 - CELEBRATE EASTER ON SUNDAY, APRIL 5.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

John 12:12-16 – King Jesus rides in on a donkey

Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King

12 The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. 13 They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting,

“Hosanna!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Blessed is the king of Israel!”

14 Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written:

15 “Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion;
see, your king is coming,
seated on a donkey’s colt.”

16 At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Mark 11:1-3 - The disciples are sent to get the donkey

11 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. 3 If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.'"

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Mark 11:5 - The disciples are questioned by bystanders

4 They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, 5 some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" 6 They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. 7 When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. 8 Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. 9 Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,

"Hosanna!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

10 "Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

11 Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Zechariah 9:9 - The prophecy of King Jesus and the donkey

The Coming of Zion's King

9 Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion!

Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you,

righteous and victorious,

lowly and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

10 I will take away the chariots from Ephraim

and the warhorses from Jerusalem,

and the battle bow will be broken.

He will proclaim peace to the nations.

His rule will extend from sea to sea

and from the River[b] to the ends of the earth.

11 As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit.

12 Return to your fortress, you prisoners of hope;

even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you.

13 I will bend Judah as I bend my bow

and fill it with Ephraim.

I will rouse your sons, Zion,

against your sons, Greece,

and make you like a warrior's sword.

Prayer Prompt by Elevation Church:

"Jesus, we declare that You are the one true King. When our lives are full of "what if" questions and unmet expectations, we know You're weaving together something beautiful that we just can't see yet. We trust You with the underside of the tapestry of our lives. Thank You for the sacrifice You prepared to make as you rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. We love You, and we're so grateful for You. Amen."

Part 1: Detailed sermon notes

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026

Sermon Summary: Ever find yourself asking God, "What are You doing?" Some seasons only make sense after you've gone through them. If you're dealing with confusion, frustration, or unmet expectations, remember: God's still working, even when you can't see what He's doing.

Sermon Highlights

- The King is coming.
- Some things only make sense after.
- The four perspectives of Palm Sunday:
 - The disciples are walking
 - The crowds are waving
 - The donkey is waiting
 - The King is weaving
- There's a difference between looking at something and living in something.
- The "what ifs" that you have will only be answered when you walk.
- Trust Him with the underside.
- I cannot judge what He's making by the moment that I'm in.
- Some of the times that I was most confused were some of the times that He most used.
- Don't confuse loud with loyal.
- God said, "Obey it now, and I'll explain it later."
- Keep walking, He's weaving.
- While you're asking God, "What are you doing?" maybe He's asking you the same.
- Don't let who leaves you stop you from believing in the One who's weaving.

Scriptures

- John 12:12-16 – King Jesus rides in on a donkey
- Mark 11:1-3 - The disciples are sent to get the donkey
- Mark 11:5 - The disciples are questioned by bystanders
- Zechariah 9:9 - The prophecy of King Jesus and the donkey

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026

Sermon Discussion

- **“Some things only make sense after.” Describe a time when something didn’t make sense at first, but later you recognized how God was working through it.**
- “Trust Him with the underside.” Where in your life does it feel messy or unfinished right now, and how does Pastor’s cross-stitch example remind you that God’s weaving together a bigger picture you can’t yet see?
- “The 'what ifs' that you have will only be answered when you walk.” What’s a “what if” you’ve been holding onto, and what’s one step of faith you could take this week instead of waiting for answers?
- **“Don’t confuse loud with loyal.” Who in your life has inspired you with their true loyalty to you or Jesus?**

Prayer Prompt: Jesus, we declare that You are the one true King. When our lives are full of “what if” questions and unmet expectations, we know You’re weaving together something beautiful that we just can’t see yet. We trust You with the underside of the tapestry of our lives. Thank You for the sacrifice You prepared to make as you rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. We love You, and we’re so grateful for You. Amen.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 - AI enabled sermon recap:

Palm Sunday procession: disciples, crowds, donkey, and King

Mar 29, 2026 • 57 minutes

Overview: Pastor Steven Furtick's Palm Sunday message (week three of the "Seeking Jesus" series) centers on John 12:12–16 and Mark 11:1–6, exploring the Triumphal Entry through four lenses—disciples, crowds, the donkey, and the King—framed by the question "What are you doing?" The core theme: keep walking in trust while Jesus is weaving purpose through confusing seasons; obedience often precedes understanding ("Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize...").

Worship and Prayer Highlights

- Call to praise and testimony; gratitude for God's faithfulness and presence; public declarations of forgiveness, healing, freedom from depression and addiction, and sufficiency of Christ's blood, "His wine," and grace.
- Prayer inviting the Holy Spirit to inhabit the gathering; affirmation that "the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the grave lives in me right now."
- Petitions for a "new work" now (not later), the removal of pride and selfish motives, and alignment with God's kingdom and will.
- Thanksgiving for God's protection through "desert" and "waters," and for fighting battles on behalf of His people; commitment to worship even without a fresh word.
- Context and Announcements
- Series: "Seeking Jesus" (week three, focusing on the "Seated Jesus").
- Occasion: Palm Sunday; Easter approaching ("we had to hit fast forward").
- Celebrations: 13th birthday of Elevation Toronto; Elevation Raleigh moving into a brand new building, with Resurrection Sunday services there.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 - AI enabled sermon recap:

Scripture Focus and Key Question

- Primary texts: John 12:12–16 (crowds shouting “Hosanna,” Jesus seated on a young donkey; disciples’ initial lack of understanding) and Mark 11:1–6 (detailed instructions to secure the colt).
- Prophetic background: Zechariah 9:9 (King comes “righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey”).
- **Key question repeated throughout: “What are you doing?”—asked of self, of others, and of God during unclear seasons.**
- Four Perspectives in the Palm Sunday Narrative
- Disciples: Walking amid confusion
- John 12:16 emphasizes that understanding often comes “only after” Jesus is glorified; difference between looking at an event and living through it.
- **Application: Keep walking through “what ifs” (marriage, health, children, career, emotions). Don’t judge others’ lives by the polished “front side” you see; every life and marriage has an underside.**
- Illustration: “The Weaver” poem (quoted by Corrie Ten Boom; authored by Grant Colfax Cullin): God sees the upper side; we see the underside. Dark threads are as needful as light ones.
- Cross-stitch analogy: A 20th-anniversary gift from Shell appears messy on the back but beautiful on the front—“Don’t confuse what it looks like with how it’s lived.” Trust God with the underside.
- Crowds: Waving but not always loyal
- Palm branches signified victory; crowds (about 120,000 in Jerusalem for Passover) shouted “Hosanna” (meaning “Save now,” referencing Psalm 118:26).
- **Warning: Don’t attach your identity to people’s praise; “Don’t confuse loud with loyal.” The same crowds later cried “Crucify him.**
- Application: Lead your life before God, not for likes or approval (even of bosses, parents, or children).
- 3) The Donkey: Waiting, chosen, and untied
- Mark 11 adds detail: Jesus sent two disciples to untie a colt “which no one has ever ridden,” instructing them to say, “The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.”

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 - AI enabled sermon recap:

Scripture Focus and Key Question

- **God's pattern: He often chooses small, unexpected vessels so the King's greatness is unmistakable ("A king can't drive a Kia?"—humorous contrast). Jesus borrowed a donkey (and later a tomb), showing purposeful humility.**
- Timing and direction: "Go to the village ahead of you"—God is moving forward; provision is found in obedience.
- Reframing rejection: "It wasn't rejection, it was reservation." The colt's lack of prior riders preserved it for Jesus' use.
- Call to simple obedience: "Obey it now and I'll explain it later." Voices may ask, "What are you doing forgiving them...trying again...going back into recovery...studying the Bible...worshiping...being kind?"—untie the "donkey" anyway.
- 4) The King: Weaving purpose through paradox
- Jesus fulfills Zechariah 9:9 by choosing a colt; He moves through, not by, crowd approval.
- Cross as foundation, not failure: The most confusing moment became the most used by God.
- **"Keep walking—He's weaving": God integrates dark and light threads, strengths and weaknesses, past and present—"All things work together for the good of those who love the Lord."**

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 - AI enabled sermon recap:

Illustrations and Practical Applications

- Marriage “underside”: Differences over finances (e.g., a \$400 coffee table), communication, intimacy—good messy vs. bad messy; fight for each other, not against each other.
- Perspective on others: Social media shows the “front side”; don’t envy what you haven’t seen on the underside.
- Church tradition and symbols: Earlier use of glow sticks on Palm Sunday (in lieu of palm branches) underscores focus on meaning over method.
- Encouragements: “I’ve never seen the righteous forsaken.” “The King is coming.” Trust God in small and awkward beginnings; take the step in front of you.
- Prophetic encouragement: “I see you welcoming home your prodigal child from a distance.”

Key Takeaways

- Understanding is often “after”: Like the disciples, clarity follows obedience and God’s glorification.
- Detach from praise: Loud is not loyal; live for God’s approval.
- Obedience precedes explanation: Untie what God points to now; purpose becomes clear in time.
- Trust the underside: God is cross-stitching your story; dark threads matter, and nothing is wasted.
- Keep walking with Jesus daily—persist through confusing seasons.
- Untie your “donkey”: take the concrete step God is prompting (forgive, try again, re-enter recovery, study Scripture, pray, worship, serve, give, be kind and patient).
- Release the need for public approval; anchor identity in Christ.
- Trust God with the “underside” of your life and relationships; don’t quit because it’s messy.
- Prepare your heart for Easter by praising and declaring: “The King is coming.”

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon Transcript:

Transcript of sermon:

- Opening Prayer #1: If God answered your prayer, if you know he's been faithful, then come on up to that. I call God on the mountain I call God in the valley I call God on the country I call God when the enemy surrounds me I call God just to thank you Just to tell the devil I know I call God as he speaks I'm so glad he came and got me I need to hear what God has to say I call God my provider I call God my defender I call God my evangelist I call God as he answers I call God I said to my Lord God and He answered. I'm so glad He didn't leave me like He died today. Give the Lord a holler of praise. Give Him a hallelujah. Come on, give the Lord a holler. We are his people, the work of his hands. We are not ashamed to praise our God. We are not afraid of the days to come. We don't know what tomorrow holds, but we know who holds tomorrow. Come on, the one who holds tomorrow is walking with you. He's standing by my side. He's working in my life. He's forgiven me of my sins. He healed me of my diseases. He broke the power of my depression. He canceled the shame of my addiction. His blood was enough. His wine is enough. His grace is sufficient. He's there for me. I've never seen the righteous forsaken. Hallelujah.
- Opening Prayer #2: Father, I thank you for your presence in this place. I don't want to take you for granted. I thank you that you decided to stop by and visit us today. To inhabit us by the power of your Holy Spirit. I thank you that the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the grave lives in me right now. In me right now. Say that out loud. In me. Right now. God, do a new work in me right now. Clear out all my pride, my selfish motives. Make more room for your kingdom to come and your will to be done in my life as it is in heaven. Here and now, God. Not five weeks from now. Not five years from now. God, I want to see the new thing that you're doing. God, I want to praise you in the beauty of your holiness. I thank you for each person that you brought here today, whether online, at a campus, or right here in the same room I'm standing in. It is good to be together. And it is good to know we're not alone. Thank you, God, that you fight our battles for us. Thank you, God, that you... Thank you that you didn't let us dehydrate in the desert. You didn't let us die when we walked through the waters. You've always been all that we need. And so now, God, we've come here today to give you thanks and praise. Even if you don't speak to us, it was still worth coming.
- Because we wanted to tell you that we love you. Even so, Lord, would you speak? Would you see fit today to use me, God? To use my feeble mind? To use my cluttered thoughts? Would you see fit today? To use my shaking voice? Would you see fit today? To speak a word to somebody who needs to hear from you today? We give you praise in advance. For what you're going to say. Because we know whatever you say. It's true. And it's done. And we say. Amen. Clap those hands everybody. Praise the Lord. What a beautiful day to be in God's presence. Thank you. What a beautiful person for you to get to sit next to today in church. Tell your neighbor, I prayed all week I'd get to sit next to somebody as good-looking as you.
- I asked the Lord all week, Lord, when I get to Elevation Church, would you put me next to somebody handsome? Somebody gorgeous? Somebody with a good complexion? Somebody smiling? You're right where the Lord wants you to be today. We are starting week three. of a series called Seeking Jesus. Now I need to show it to you, it's one of those that you need a visual aid. Here's the graphic for our series, Seeking Jesus. And then what we were saying is that when God breaks through you see King Jesus. Look here, look here. Give me my tight shot. Not this time. Not the kind who sits on your desk, but the kind who kicks a stone out early on a Sunday morning and says, give me some leg room.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon Transcript:

- Come on, make room for the king in this place. Don't even worry about what you've got to do after church today. You want to go live? Kick everybody out of the room and say, I've got to see the king of Jesus. Who wants this one? I threw it last week and I think it was highly offensive. Come get it now. Right there. Third row. Third row. Third row. No, I won't get it to her myself. Happy Palm Sunday. Now you know. Okay. You got something for me. Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. That was your word. I see you welcoming home your prodigal child from a distance. Say hey by faith. Father, we thank you today for the words that you're going to fulfill, the testimonies that are already in progress. In Jesus' name. The Lord has been speaking to me. Open your Bible. Stay standing. John chapter 12. You're like, well, Pastor Stephen, we were only in John 1 last week. How did we get to John 12 so quick? Easter's coming.
- We had to hit fast forward. We're skipping a few scenes. But we're going to see the Lord ride in to Jerusalem on a donkey. And we're going to see the Lord ride in to Jerusalem on a donkey. John chapter 12, verse 12.
- I want to give a couple of birthday greetings. It is the 13th birthday of our Toronto campus. Let's say God for Elevation Toronto. Praise the Lord. Stephen, Kristen, the whole crew of Toronto. Y'all go crazy. Y'all celebrate today. It's a big birthday. Our Raleigh location is moving into their brand new building today. Let's go Raleigh.
- We have Resurrection Sunday in Raleigh in a brand new building. It's going to be amazing. Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. This occasion that we celebrate today, of course, is mitigated in its joy by the fact that for Jesus, it would represent his sacrifice as he rides into Jerusalem to give his life for you and I.
- Now let me read the passage from John chapter 12, verses 12 through 16. picking up right here in Midflo, the next day, the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is the King of Israel. Now watch what Jesus did to study in contrast. Here are these loud shouts. From the crowd. And Jesus. Verse 14. Found a young donkey. And sat on it. As it is written. Do not be afraid daughters. See your king is coming. In that good news. Your king is coming. Doesn't that bless you to know. Your king is coming. Tell somebody next to you. The king is coming. The king is coming. See your king. is coming seated on a donkey's coat. That's unexpected. Last week, we talked about the stage. Jesus week one. We talked about the seeking Jesus. This week, we're going to talk about the seated Jesus seated on the donkey's coat. Now, one more verse. I want to give you that you can be seated. This is what I want to talk to you about today at first. His disciples did not understand all this. Only after.
- **See, some things only make sense after. Only after. Don't worry too much right now about what you don't understand. Some things only make sense after. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him. And that's where I want to stop today. I'm going to give this message a simple title, and then we might call it something different online. But I'm just going to put it after a question today.**
- Give your neighbor my title. Look at him and say, what are you doing? What are you doing? What are you doing? That's it. That's the message today. What are you doing? Well, don't answer him. Just this is a setup for a sermon. You'll have to give him a report. You may be seated.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon Transcript:

- What are you doing? Very common question, right? You might just ask somebody that, call them on the phone. What are you doing? Is it a good time or is it a bad time? What are you doing? You might have asked your kids that the other day. What are you doing? Might have had a different tone, reflection to it that way. What are you doing? Sometimes you might ask yourself that. You know, after an hour of scrolling stuff that you really don't even wanna look at and you're not really interested in. And you don't even really like cats, but you've been watching them do stuff on your phone. for like 45 minutes, what are you doing? What are you doing? You know what I'm talking about, like halfway through the stress eating exercise and you're like, what are you doing? You know, you know, like anytime I eat brisket after 6.30 p.m., I'm like, what are you doing? You know this brisket is gonna make a encore appearance tonight. 3 a.m., what are you doing? I just like the brisket. I don't know, I'll have time to slow down and think about it and analyze it. What are you doing?
- Then there is that sense of a season of your life when you even ask that question of God. Seasons where it is not obvious or apparent. Seasons where you cannot point to answered prayers. What are you doing? Seasons where you can't discern why he would remove a certain someone from your life. What are you doing? I needed them, Lord. Don't you know I needed them? What are you doing? what are you doing more like got I'm going to go ahead and get a job right now because I got I got bills right now and I'm people in heaven but right now that is not a currency me my power bill right here on the server you're going to learn what you doing and that's what I want to preach about this you know the disciples not only characters this story that I read job chapter 12 we call today from this passage.
- And this is the way I'd like to take you through the journey because we're going to see what four different characters or groups were doing in the story. First, we're going to look at the disciples and see what they're doing. And then we're going to look at the crowds, the crowds that were gathered, and we're going to see what the crowds are doing. And then we're going to look at the donkey and talk about what the donkey was doing. And then I want to talk about the king. King put all four of those in the comments or watch it online put the disciples the crowds the donkey and the king what are you doing well the disciples of course are walking with Jesus which sounds simple and it is simple until it isn't it's easy for us to judge the disciples when we read a verse like John 12 16 at first his disciples did not understand all this only after Jesus was glorified did they realize these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him.
- There is a part of you that wants to say, after all you've seen and after all you've experienced walking with Jesus, how could you still be wondering what he is doing? But keep in mind, before you judge the disciples, that we know what they don't. When you read John chapter 12, you have an advantage over the disciples because you know. What they don't. You know about the third day. They don't. You know perhaps about the messianic fulfillment that is represented in this passage. Because you have a cross reference in your Bible.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon Transcript:

- And it says, if you want to read John chapter 12 verse 15. About the king riding on a colt. A baby donkey. That's taken from Zechariah 9.9. Which is a little bit of text. I prophesied 500 years ago he's fulfilling prophecy they don't know that because they are living that and certain things in your life while you are living them don't look like they look after they're over there's a difference between looking at something and living in something so when we see Jesus writing in on a donkey we see it as a sign of humility and peace and prophecy For them it was very confusing to watch the master and the CEO of the universe Uber into Jerusalem to do the most important task that a human has ever done. You know what they don't. And it's important to remember that.
- We get a big picture of Jesus from John's Gospel. We know about him turning water into wine, and they saw that. And we know about him talking to a woman at a well, they saw that. We know about him feeding 5,000 hungry souls, and women and children, and they saw that. But they saw all these things while they walked with him. And we worship him because we read about these things, but they had to walk with him as they realized Than it is to walk with the Jesus. Who is frustrating your expectations. And confusing your emotions. By heading to the cross. When you need him to be a king. So I just want to talk about for a moment. For all of you who are going through a season of your life. That looks like what are you doing? Keep walking. Keep walking. Because the what ifs that you have about your marriage. The what ifs that you have about your health. The what ifs that you have about your children. The what ifs that you have about your career. The what ifs that you have about your emotions. The what ifs that you have will only be answered when you walk.
- So keep walking. That's all the disciples did. They walked with him. The disciples are walking. Everybody say the disciples are walking. And the disciples are walking with a Jesus that they do not fully understand. Even though they have been radically changed. even though they have been wonderfully exposed, the disciples are living in it, and there is a difference between living in it and looking at it. Now, you're like, you already said that. I'm gonna say it again, because it is so easy for you to look at somebody else's life and envy them and be jealous of them, but you might be jealous of a life that you're only seeing the front side of.
- And if you ever saw the back side of their life, you might not be bitter about yours. Because there is a chance that the cost that they are paying to be who they are is greater than the toll that you would want to pay. So don't be jealous. And also, don't judge. Don't judge. Because we are all walking. We are like the disciples. There are things that we don't understand and we will not until after.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon Transcript:

- I heard about a poem that Corrie Ten Boom used to love. I thought that she wrote it. But I found out that she was quoting from Grant Colfax Cullin, who was a poet. And I want you to listen to this because she read it as a Holocaust survivor. She read it after forgiving people who tortured her family. She read it after surviving something that most of us would have stumbled over. And she read this poem called The Weaver. “My life is but a weaving between my God and me. I cannot choose the colors he weaveth steadily. Oft times he weaveth sorrow, and I in foolish pride. Forget, he seeks the upper, and I the lower side. Not till the moon is silent, and the shuttles cease to fly. will God unroll the canvas and reveal the reason why? The dark threads are as needful in the weaver's skillful hand as the threads of gold and silver in the pad he has planted. What she's saying is, I don't see the picture from my perspective. I don't see what his hands are doing while I am going through the hardships of my life. And it is the weaver that I worship. And I walk with him and I talk with him, but I often wonder, what are you doing?”
- I can tell I might need to break this down a little bit. So let me show you something. Holly and I have a great marriage. Great marriage. Yeah, I picked the right partner and I'm reaping the benefits ever since. Praise the Lord. For our 20th anniversary a while back, Shell made us this. This cross stitch. Can you see it? Kinda, right? Like you can kinda tell what it is. It kinda looks like she didn't do a good job. It kinda looks like she needs to go back to cross stitch class. Take a couple remedial weeks, but of course, if you see the other side, you can see she did pretty good.
- You can see she made me look just like I did on that fateful day with no beard standing before my wife in my S and K suit, about three sizes too big for me. And there we are like this on this side.
- Every marriage does have an underside. And I just want you to remember, when you look at everybody's Easter pictures on Instagram in about a week, they're showing this, but they probably went through this in the car before they got the Sears to take the picture. That's a callback reference from the 80s. You see what I'm saying? This is, zoom back in, y'all. What are you doing? This is what it looks like, and this is how it's lived. I said, this is what it looks like. And this is how it's lived. She, she got out of the car the other day and she asked me, does my hair look good, messy or bad, messy now after 20 something years, I can tell you that the answer to that automatically is good messy, but I can also tell you there is a difference between good messy and bad messy and good messy. is when you are trusting God in your life to work out the details that you can't control.
- And you are trusting God's sovereignty in your life for situations that are too big for you. Good messy is in a marriage where we fight for the marriage. Where we fight with each other instead of against each other. And we fight for each other. Because every marriage has an underside. Every marriage that looks like this, looks like this somewhere.
- Every marriage that looks like this, where the couple has their debts paid off, had conversations about, are you really bringing that coffee table into my house? And did it really cost? I remember the first time she told me she wanted to spend \$400 on a coffee table. I said, you better find one that has some dings and dents in it, You better find one that's busted out the top of it. \$400 for a coffee table? See, because we are still weaving together our values for money. She has a value for a coffee table. I didn't even drink coffee at the time. How am I supposed to pay \$400 for something I don't even drink, I'm not even gonna use? It looks like this. Every marriage, in terms of sexual relationships, in terms of communication, in terms of conflict management, it always looks like this. So what I'm trying to say is, Don't confuse what it looks like with how it's lived.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon Transcript:

- Or you might give up on something great because of something gross. And you might give up on something miraculous because of something messy. And when God is bringing something together in your life, remember, you have to trust Him with the underside. That might be the whole word for somebody today. Trust Him with the underside. I know it's ugly, but trust Him. I know it's crazy, but trust Him. I know it's confusing, but trust Him.
- I know it's not coming together as fast as you want it, but trust Him. I know you can't figure out what it is yet, but trust Him. I know everybody around you is acting kind of judgmental, but don't judge the underside. Because in God's hand, the dark threads are just as important as the light threads. And all things work together for the good of them. who are called according to his purpose. So if he called me according to his purpose, that means there will be an underside that he oversees. And I cannot judge what he's making by the moment that I'm in.
- Or I will be like the disciples that saw the cross as a failure. But this was not the failure, this was the foundation. And isn't it amazing that the disciples walked with Jesus into the most confusing moments of their life. But the most confusing moment was the one that he used the most. I can tell you looking back on 46 years of living that some of the times that I was most confused were some of the times that he most used. So don't give up on God just because you're on the underside. It might be ugly on the underside. It might be uncomfortable on the other side.
- It may be inconvenient on the other side. It may be embarrassing. It may be humiliating. You might have to ask some questions you may not understand until after. When Jesus was glorified, they got it. And then they went, Oh, is this? And the faith is to, the faith, is to make it through the lows. So you can get to the, oh, oh. And meanwhile, the disciples are walking and the crowds, that's number two, are waving. And they are waving palm branches. These palm branches are not random. I remember a few years ago in church, actually it must have been about 15 years ago, this is back when I used to copy everything my buddy Perry Noble did in church, God knew what I was doing.
- And he had people break these glow sticks one Sunday, and on Palm Sunday they all raised them in the air and they were singing, shine your light and let the whole world see for the glory of the risen King. And everybody broke the glow stick and raised it up in the air on Palm Sunday, and we were using it to represent all the people we wanted to seek unto Christ, and we were raising the glow sticks.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon Transcript:

- And I read this young girl on Twitter, She said, my mom asked me did we have palm branches in church on Palm Sunday, and I had to tell her, no, they had glow sticks. And I was like, that's just elevation, right? Like not a lot of tradition around here. In fact, this is the first time I've preached on the donkey on Palm Sunday in about 10 to 15 years. But before I can even talk about the donkey, I gotta talk about the crowds. Because we named this Sunday after what the crowds held in their hands. and what they waved as a sign of victory. The palm branch represented victory. Like when a great conquering king would take a new territory and come back into town on a war horse, they would wave these palm branches and these myrtles, and they would shout, Hosanna, blessed is he who comes, in the name of the Lord. And they do it three times.
- Hosanna, blessed is he, Hosanna! Blessed is he! This is a scripture that they were quoting from Psalm 118, verse 26. Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Now, Jesus is hanging to a cross, and he's coming through Jerusalem. And about 120,000 people are gathered to celebrate the Passover festival. And it's crowded in the streets. Of Jerusalem. And they're shouting out. Save now. That's what Hosanna means. Save now. Because don't we want God to get it out of us. And get us out of it. Right now. And don't we want God to do what he's going to do right now. And since they just got word. That Lazarus was in the ground. But he got up.
- Maybe they figured that this. the king to do, and so this, they're shouting Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, and they're shouting loud. I believe that as they are shouting Hosanna, which is a praise word, Jesus can already hear the echoes of crucify him, which the same crowds would be shouting on Friday.
- You'll never get too attached to people's praise. Because if you live by it, you'll die when they take it away. Even don't be too attached to when your kids think you're a good parent. Sometimes you might have to take their phone and they might call you the devil. Now what you going to do about it? You running a popularity contest or a household?
- **Don't be too attached to people's praise. Don't even be too attached to your parents praise. Sometimes your parents see you as their proud. Fulfill something that they didn't accomplish in their life and only God can show you what your next step is so don't be too attached to their praise.**
- If you live when they give it you'll die when they take it away don't be too attached to people's praise - don't be too attached to the likes - don't be too attached to the encouragement of your boss what you're going to do with your boss who's the engines which you can do if you get a boss that doesn't like you you're still going to work hard because you're God's child Jesus never moved by the approval of people.
- Jesus never moved for the yeas of the crowds. Jesus never moved for the high fives even of his own disciples. Jesus was not moved by the crowd. He moved through the crowd. I'm going somewhere. The disciples are walking. The crowds are waving. And they are shouting, Hosanna. But they will not still be shouting when he is led like a lamb to the slaughter. They will not still be shouting when Pilate puts him up, turns him over, and hangs him to die. They will not still be shouting on Saturday when his body lays in a tomb. What are you trying to say? Don't confuse loud with loyal. Don't confuse loud with loyal. The crowds are waving.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon Transcript:

- The crowds will wave that's fine, but Jesus was not moved by the crowds. And I don't know who this point is for, because it's really just an incidental point to get to the main point of this message. Because while the crowds are waving. The donkey. Can we talk about the donkey? I know we're all impressed by Palm Sunday. But why can't we call it Donkey Sunday? because it doesn't have the same ring to it? Because while the disciples are walking and the crowds are waving, watch what the donkey is doing. The donkey is waving. So now the crowds are walking. Calm down, get it to him slowly. The crowds are waving, Hosanna, Hosanna. And the donkey is waving. Now this is really fun. Go back to John chapter 11 verse one. You know, John doesn't give a lot of details about the donkey, in fact. When he talks about the donkey, he says something so simple, you almost just read right over it and say, Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it. And that's all the details we get from John. John, like a true man, just gives you the bottom line. He found a donkey and he sat on it. But you know what this tells me?
- I'm speculating, but I have good reason. I'm studying. John wasn't one of the disciples that got sent to get the donkey. That's what it tells me. It's like our kids fighting around the table, you know, they'll be trying to tell a story at dinner, and they'll be like, shut up, let me tell it. Or, I'm sorry, we're a church, we're a pastor's family. Please be quiet, please, park it under my bus. That's what they say about you.
- They say shut up at your house, what's wrong with you? You're a terrible parent. They say, shut up, it's my story, let me tell it. And I almost felt when John said, Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it and then just went right on to Psalm 118, 26 in the palm branches and all of the wonderful things. I almost felt Peter speak up and said, shut up, John. You weren't there. Let me tell it. So in Mark's gospel, flip over to Mark real quick because this is the underside. This is the... the side of the story from the one who was there. In Mark chapter 11, you get a little fuller account.
- You get more than just Jesus found a donkey and sat on it and rode on into Jerusalem. You get a little bit clearer picture and you get a little bit more detail. And I want to read it to you from Mark chapter 11. As they approached Jerusalem, some disciples walking toward Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples. We don't know which two. I'm speculating that it was Peter based on the nature of the job. You know, you got some disciples that you need to pray for you. And then you have some disciples that you need to do other stuff for you that isn't quite as spiritual. And watch what Jesus told them to do. Verse two, saying to them, go to the village ahead of you. And just as you're entering, you will find a colt that's a baby donkey. Tithe it. which no one has ever written. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, why are you doing this? Say, the Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.
- Skinner, I can't skip over this and talk about the donkey being borrowed because I'm thinking about the fact that Jesus borrowed two things around Easter. One was a donkey and one was a tomb. But see, it wasn't exactly borrowed the appropriate way, right? This is not technically how you should borrow something, right? And so that's why I think that Jesus needed Peter to do something that was so dumb that it would take a dumb disciple to do it. Do I have any dumb disciples in the room today who aren't the smartest, who aren't exactly the sharpest tools in the drawer? But Jesus, if you need something to hit something, That's Peter. Peter's kind of dull, but he'll do it. Tell your neighbor, I'm dull, but I'll do it.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon Transcript:

- That's why I think the Lord called me to start the church when I was 25. When I was dumb enough to do stuff. I didn't know how to run a profit and loss statement. I didn't know how to check a ledger. All I knew how to do was ask the Lord. And if the Lord told me to give everybody glow sticks, I gave them the glow sticks. I didn't care if Aunt Ethel liked it or not. I was dumb enough to break a glow stick and tell him happy Easter. I was dumb enough to do some stuff. And the problem with some of us is that we've gotten smarter than a donkey.
- But when Jesus was looking for something to come into town on, he did not look for a scholar. He did not look for the head of the class. He did not look for a valedictorian to be his vessel. He said, I need a donkey. I wonder who I can trust enough. To take my word without detail. To take my word without explanation. To take my word without the cross reference. And do what I need you to do. The Bible says in verse 5 of Mark chapter 11.
- That some people standing there asked. What are you doing? just like the title of our sermon. Just like they were wondering about Jesus. And they're wondering what Jesus is doing. Jesus, are you really gonna let them kill you like this? Jesus, are you really gonna ride up into Jerusalem in a jalopy? I mean, Jesus, you're a king. Don't you hear them calling you a king? A king can't drive a Kia. Jesus, at least let us put in good word with somebody who has a train. You know, they got luxury donkeys. You know, they got big grown donkeys.
- Did you say you want a baby donkey? A little donkey? Can we at least get a big donkey, Jesus? And Jesus said, no, I need to be big. So I need what I ride on to be small so they can see how big I am of God. That's what God will do. If you have the faith, the trust, and the stuff that you don't understand. is that he will pick something that you never would have chosen. And he will ride into situations that you never would have gone into. Who is this message for today? The king is coming, but he's not coming in a chariot. The king is coming, but he's not coming with a banner. The king is coming, but he's not going to do what you wanted him to do. He's going to do it on a donkey. But if you've got enough faith to untie that donkey, if you've got enough faith, To obey what He showed you, here's the word of the Lord. God said, obey it now and I'll explain it later. Obey it now and I'll explain it later. So I know this doesn't make sense. I know it looks like a mess, but it's a good kind of messy. I know you don't understand why I would ride into town on a donkey.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon Transcript:

- I imagine the disciples untying the colt and somebody says, what are you doing untying that colt? There's somebody in a situation right now, and maybe even the voices in your head are saying, what are you doing forgiving them? What are you doing moving on from that? What are you doing in church today? What are you doing trying this again? What are you doing going back into recovery? What are you doing studying the Bible? What are you doing praying and worshipping God? What are you doing being nice to them after they were nasty to you? What are you doing getting back up again after you fell out seven times? What are you doing launching another business? What are you doing taking another step? What are you doing calling that family member and saying, let's try again? What are you doing taking your next step? What are you doing stumbling into tomorrow?
- What are you doing still trusting God? Hands lifted high, praising Him. Not with hands that say, say now, but hands that say, I trust in God. I'm gonna prove faith now. And you get explained later. Oh, the Lord said to tell you, the donkey was found, but it wasn't free yet. So high five somebody and say, you're about to be set free. Does that donkey, oh, I've got to preach about the donkey. I've got to preach about the donkey. To somebody who feels useless. To somebody who feels common. To somebody who feels like your life isn't much. Can we think about the fact that for 500 years, it has been prophesied that Jesus would ride into town on a donkey. So that means for 50 decades, 500 years, God has been getting this donkey's DNA ready for Jesus to sit on it. Because look what Jesus said, I don't know if it's verse three, Mark chapter 11 or verse four, but we're gonna find it on the screen today because I gotta show you this. I gotta show you this. Tell somebody, you gotta see this. It's actually verse two. Go to the village ahead of you. Side note, it's not behind you. God is moving you forward in this season. It's not behind you. It's not behind you. It's not going to be anybody who left you that God uses to bless you. It's ahead of you. It's not going to be anybody that walked away. See, because there's somebody in here I'm preaching to, and somebody just left your life recently, and you thought, God, what are you doing removing them? And God said, I'm making room for me to move, so I had to get that out of the way. to it is always ahead of you. Go to the village ahead of you just as you enter it. It's not going to take long. When you get to where I send you, you will find a colt, a donkey, a baby donkey there which no one has ever ridden. Untie it, set it free, and bring it here. Now there's an important detail. No one has ever ridden it. So that means this donkey, this colt, This baby donkey, this unclean animal, this thing that the king wanted to ride in on and reserved it. He made sure that no one ever sat on this donkey so that he could be the first one to sit on this donkey. God said it wasn't rejection, it was preparation.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon Transcript:

- It wasn't rejection, it was reservation. God was saving you for this moment because there's something he wants to do in your life. And God said, I want a donkey that is inexperienced. Isn't it crazy? If we would have been submitting our resume to bring the king into Jerusalem, we would have listed our experience. But our very experience that we would have listed would have disqualified us for the job. Because God said, I want a donkey that stumbles into Jerusalem. I want a donkey that's awkward to ride on. I want a donkey that no one has sat on because I'm doing a new thing. Happy Palm Sunday everybody! Because while the disciples are walking and the crowds are waving and the donkey is waving Oh, I figure if we can't be good disciples at least let us be good donkeys At least let us invite the presence of God into situation even if we're awkward at least let us stumble forward because the disciples are walking the crowds are with the donkeys way and all that time the king the king is weaving my life is but a weaving between my God and me I can't talk to anybody else about this right now, but it's between my God and me. Nobody else is really seeing the mess on the underside of my family right now, but it's a weaving between my God and me. I cannot choose the colors he weaves steadily. Oftentimes he weaves in sorrow, and I in foolish pride forget he sees the upper, and I the underside.
- **Closing prayer #1: The Lord told me to tell you, keep walking. He's weaving. Keep walking. He's weaving. He's weaving, see? Because at some point, the Bible says that after Jesus was glorified, this is his death, this is his burial, this is his resurrection, this is his ascension. The Bible says that the disciples did what Jesus told them to do, even though they didn't understand it. Will you? What if you're asking God, what are you doing? Maybe he's asking you the same. What are you doing? Because there are some things in this season of your life where he's called you to trust him. And he's called you to have integrity. And he's called you to be kind. And he's called you to be patient. And he's called you to be giving. And he's called you to be a servant. And he's called you to prayer. And he's called you to worship. And he's called you to praise. So can you and will you? Do what he gave you to do as they are untying the donkey, the king, Jesus is weaving. See, he's weaving. They're walking. Crowds are waving. A donkey is waiting. And Jesus is weaving. He's reaching that 500 feet all the way through Zechariah's prophecy.**
- And he says, I can't have a pretty horse. Zechariah didn't say a pretty horse. He said a donkey. I've got to sit on a donkey. Because the word said it, donkey, and I've got to fulfill the word. God knows the word he spoke over your life. God knows the word that was in your spirit before your body came out of your mother's womb.
- **Closing Prayer #2: God knows what he has for you. God knows the plans he has for you. And he's weaving, he's weaving some things together. It was only after he got up from the grave that they realized, What he did on the cross, they realized he was cross-stitching. I said they realized that he was cross-stitching. They realized that every drop of blood he shed was on purpose. It was not spilled. It was poured out. And God says nothing will be wasted in the hands of the weak. Not one tear, not one broken heart, not one lonely night. Because while the disciples were walking, and while the crowds were waving and the donkey was waiting, there was a king who was leaving. And I don't know when they had their moment, but at some point, Peter looked at John and said, Oh, oh, the donkey, the donkey.**

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon Transcript:

- And John's like, what are you on about, Peter? The donkey? Yeah, the donkey, the one that Jesus didn't tell you to go get because he knew you were too quiet to say what he needed to say. And John's like, shut up, Peter. What about the donkey? And Peter, I don't know what he was thinking about that night, but he just. technically chapters and verses in the Bible at this point in time, but go over here and see the illustration. He goes, Zechariah 9-9 was in the Old Testament. Rejoice greatly, daughter of Zion. Shout, daughter of Jerusalem. See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I thought it was crazy when he sent us to get the donkey. I thought it was weird when he sent us to get the donkey. I thought it was crazy when he let me go through a divorce and he didn't stop it. I thought it was crazy when the doctor said, you have this disease and you're gonna have to go through treatment. I thought that it was crazy and I asked God, what are you doing? But now I realize that there was a purpose that he was fulfilling that I could not see at the time. And I'm telling you to trust him in the lowest. So you can get to the O.
- And I came to encourage somebody. Keep walking. Tell your neighbor keep walking. He's weaving. He's weaving. That's what you got to believe. In every season of your life. He's weaving. He's weaving. And as you're going through things. That you don't understand. Give me John chapter 12 verse 16. And I'll close with this. The Bible says. At first they did not understand. Only after. Jesus was glorified. Did they realize that these things had been written about him? And these things had been done to him. And only did they see after he was glorified. That when they were walking, he was weaving. I want you to know he's weaving. The good things and the bad things, all things work together for the good of those who love the Lord and are called according to his words. The king is weaving. The disciples are walking, the crowds are waving, the donkey is waving, but Jesus, King Jesus is weaving. You've got to believe that in seasons of your life when people leave you. You've got to believe that in seasons of your life when people come. He's weaving. They all left Jesus at the cross. He never stopped weaving. Don't let who leaves you stop you from believing in the one who is weaving. He's a cross stitcher. gifts and your weaknesses, he's weaving. Your past and your present, he's weaving. The good days and the bad days, he's weaving. The places you're strong and the places you're not, he's weaving. The king is weaving.
- **Closing Prayer #3: And so when you see your king coming on a colt, don't be surprised. He likes to show up in situations that look small, you He likes to show up in vehicles that seem weak. And when he leaves the strength with your weakness, somebody shout, the king is coming. Come on, touch seven people, tell them the king is coming. Everybody get up on your feet and shout. Say, the king is coming. The king is coming. I'll have to be afraid. I'll have to turn around. I'll have to give up. I'll have to give in. The King is coming. Come on, my God. The King is coming. The King is coming. Sunday is coming. Glory is coming. Victory is coming. Breakthrough is coming. Healing is coming. He's with me. He's with me. Keep walking, he's weaving. Keep praying, he's weaving. He knows what he's doing. God is a cross-stitcher. You may not understand it right now, but after Jesus is glorified, you will understand. Oh, he took me through that to show me who he was. Oh, he took me through that so that he could be for me what I could not be for myself. Oh, he was good for me. Because the times for me were the most confusing. The times he used the most. What are you doing, God? What are you doing? I'll tell you what I'm doing. I'm weaving. I'm weaving. I'm weaving. I'm weaving. I got good hands.**

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon Transcript:

- Bring me my blanket. I'll close with this. I was walking out to preach to you. And I saw this on my couch. And I thought maybe this could help me get my point across. Because when I say he's weaving, and when I say that you have to trust him with the underside, you could look at this and faintly make an outline of what it was. John chapter 12, verse 16. They did not understand all of this at first. They did not understand all of this at first. My life is but a weaving between my God and me. They did not understand while they were walking. They did not understand while the crowds were waiting. They did not even understand while the donkey was waiting. On the other side, I saw. It was his hands. It was his hands. It was his hands. You see, How when you're on the underside, it's kind of ugly. You're like, I think this is God, but I'm not sure. I don't know if this is God. I'm here right now. Oh, this sorry, practice my illustration for next week for Easter. When the guests come. When this is. Yes. And then and then I wanted to tell you to trust on this side, what you can only trace on this side. He's weak. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him and that these things God used and these things and these things and good things bad things and high things and low things and pretty things and painful things. He's weaving. He's weaving.
- **Closing Prayer #4: Father, I bless you for your word today. It spoke to me so much. The times in my life that I look back and see that you were weaving while I was walking. That you were weaving while I was waiting. I praise you today, Lord, because you brought somebody here to be reminded of the skillful touch of your hand, the weaver's hand. I thank you that today, Lord, as we stare into Easter Sunday and anticipate your resurrection, that you have given us the faith to face Friday, knowing that the weaver will never leave our side. Father, you know who you're speaking to today. You know their name. You know their need. You know the need beneath the need beneath the need that presents itself as the problem. And you are the weaver. God, I thank you that all things do work together for those who you love and are called according to your purpose. And may we be better than the disciples were because we know what the disciples did. May we walk in the light of our resurrected Savior. May we worship our weaver who works all things together. I've come a long way. I've seen how you work. There's so much goodness in grace. Much more than I know. Because I know why. Stop right there. Do you know who you are? If you feel like that donkey sometimes and you're like, I don't have much God. I've never really done this before. But I can't stay where I'm at. Because I've come this far by faith. And I just, you know the song. Lift your hands and say, you're not done. That's what I want you to sing.**

Part 2: eGroup study questions and additional thoughts

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon discussion:

- Application: Keep walking through “what ifs” (marriage, health, children, career, emotions). Don’t judge others’ lives by the polished “front side” you see; every life and marriage has an underside.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon discussion:

- Warning: Don't attach your identity to people's praise; "Don't confuse loud with loyal." The same crowds later cried "Crucify him."

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon discussion:

- God's pattern: He often chooses small, unexpected vessels so the King's greatness is unmistakable ("A king can't drive a Kia?" —humorous contrast). Jesus borrowed a donkey (and later a tomb), showing purposeful humility.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church Sermon Notes: What Are You Doing? By Pastor Steven Furtick - March 30, 2026 – Sermon discussion:

- “Keep walking—He’s weaving”: God integrates dark and light threads, strengths and weaknesses, past and present—“All things work together for the good of those who love the Lord.”
- I heard about a poem that Corrie Ten Boom used to love. I thought that she wrote it. But I found out that she was quoting from Grant Colfax Cullin, who was a poet. And I want you to listen to this because she read it as a Holocaust survivor. She read it after forgiving people who tortured her family. She read it after surviving something that most of us would have stumbled over.
- And she read this poem called The Weaver. “My life is but a weaving between my God and me. I cannot choose the colors he weaveth steadily. Oft times he weaveth sorrow, and I in foolish pride. Forget, he seeks the upper, and I the lower side. Not till the moon is silent, and the shuttles cease to fly. will God unroll the canvas and reveal the reason why? The dark threads are as needful in the weaver's skillful hand as the threads of gold and silver in the pad he has planted. What she's saying is, I don't see the picture from my perspective. I don't see what his hands are doing while I am going through the hardships of my life. And it is the weaver that I worship. And I walk with him and I talk with him, but I often wonder, what are you doing?”

- Closing prayer #1: The Lord told me to tell you, keep walking. He's weaving. Keep walking. He's weaving. He's weaving, see? Because at some point, the Bible says that after Jesus was glorified, this is his death, this is his burial, this is his resurrection, this is his ascension. The Bible says that the disciples did what Jesus told them to do, even though they didn't understand it. Will you? What if you're asking God, what are you doing? Maybe he's asking you the same. What are you doing? Because there are some things in this season of your life where he's called you to trust him. And he's called you to have integrity. And he's called you to be kind. And he's called you to be patient. And he's called you to be giving. And he's called you to be a servant. And he's called you to prayer. And he's called you to worship. And he's called you to praise. So can you and will you? Do what he gave you to do as they are untying the donkey, the king, Jesus is weaving. See, he's weaving. They're walking. Crowds are waving. A donkey is waiting. And Jesus is weaving. He's reaching that 500 feet all the way through Zechariah's prophecy.

- Closing Prayer #3: And so when you see your king coming on a colt, don't be surprised. He likes to show up in situations that look small, you He likes to show up in vehicles that seem weak. And when he leaves the strength with your weakness, somebody shout, the king is coming. Come on, touch seven people, tell them the king is coming. Everybody get up on your feet and shout. Say, the king is coming. The king is coming. I'll have to be afraid. I'll have to turn around. I'll have to give up. I'll have to give in. The King is coming. Come on, my God. The King is coming. The King is coming. Sunday is coming. Glory is coming. Victory is coming. Breakthrough is coming. Healing is coming. He's with me. He's with me. Keep walking, he's weaving. Keep praying, he's weaving. He knows what he's doing. God is a cross-stitcher. You may not understand it right now, but after Jesus is glorified, you will understand. Oh, he took me through that to show me who he was. Oh, he took me through that so that he could be for me what I could not be for myself. Oh, he was good for me. Because the times for me were the most confusing. The times he used the most. What are you doing, God? What are you doing? I'll tell you what I'm doing. I'm weaving. I'm weaving. I'm weaving. I'm weaving. I got good hands.

- Closing Prayer #4: “Father, I bless you for your word today. It spoke to me so much. The times in my life that I look back and see that you were weaving while I was walking. That you were weaving while I was waiting. I praise you today, Lord, because you brought somebody here to be reminded of the skillful touch of your hand, the weaver's hand. I thank you that today, Lord, as we stare into Easter Sunday and anticipate your resurrection, that you have given us the faith to face Friday, knowing that the weaver will never leave our side. Father, you know who you're speaking to today. You know their name. You know their need. You know the need beneath the need beneath the need that presents itself as the problem. And you are the weaver. God, I thank you that all things do work together for those who you love and are called according to your purpose. May we walk in the light of our resurrected Savior. May we worship our weaver who works all things together. I've come a long way. I've seen how you work. Much more than I know. Amen”

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.”