

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.
- Feb. 8 2026 – 20th anniversary of Elevation Church.

Scriptures

- Matthew 7:24-29 - – The wise and foolish builders
- Mark 8:14-22 - The disciples forget to bring bread
- 1 Chronicles 29:1-2 - David gives Solomon resources
- 1 Samuel 17:33-40 - David was prepared for Goliath
- Matthew 16:15-18 - Simon becomes Peter, the rock

Opening Prayer on 1/25/2026: “Come on, somebody help me lift the name of Jesus. Come on, let's lift the name of Jesus. Blessed Redeemer, Jesus! Blessed Redeemer, Jesus! Humble Savior, Jesus! Glorious Lord, Emmanuel! God with us! And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords! What's His name? See us every time we live Healing in the name of Jesus Salvation in the name of Jesus Freedom in the name of Jesus No other name but Jesus The only name that saves. Father, I thank you today that when I don't know what to do, I know who to call. I ask you today, Lord, show up for your people. They've called on you. They've cried to you. We believe in your word. Your word says that if we call, you'll hear us in the day of trouble. I pray right now, Lord. that for every storm that may be happening, whether it's a physical storm that the weatherman was talking about, or whether it's an emotional storm that no one knows of, that you would speak peace to it. Peace, be still. Peace, be still. Yours is the voice that doesn't need a sound system. Peace. Be still. Yours is the power that never goes out. Peace. Be still.”

Part 1: Detailed sermon notes

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church sermon notes: More Ready Than You Recognize - Pastor Steven Furtick – 2/2/2026

Sermon Summary: Feeling unsure doesn't mean you're unprepared. God often provides what you need before you feel confident enough to use it. This message will help you recognize the strength, wisdom, and support God's already given you for the season you're in.

Sermon Highlights

- **Just because I'm not prepared doesn't mean God hasn't provided.**
- The power is in the practice.
- It's not always warfare. Sometimes it's just weather.
- I've got resource because I've got relationship.
- Stop saying "I'm not ready" and build with it.
- I have everything I need for the season I'm in.
- The calling proves His confidence. God would not call you to do it if He was not confident that you could.
- Have you been building your house on the sand of situations and circumstances?
- The Lord reveals His truth, and the storm reveals my trust.
- The house that was built on the rock wasn't ruined; its foundation was revealed.
- God wouldn't have called you to it if He wasn't gonna do it with you.
- On Christ the solid Rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand.
- I've got resources, and I've got relationship, because I've got a Rock.

Scriptures

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Sermon Discussion

- “Just because I'm not prepared doesn't mean God hasn't provided.” Where in life do you feel unprepared right now, and in what ways has God already provided in this area?
- “I've got resources, and I've got relationship, because I've got a Rock.” When storms arise in your life, which of these three truths encourages you the most and why?
- “I've got resource because I've got relationship.” How have your relationships with God and others been a source of strength for you in the past?
- “I have everything I need for the season I'm in.” What's one resource, skill, or relationship God's given you for the season you're in?
- “The Lord reveals His truth, and the storm reveals my trust.” Share a moment or challenge that revealed a deeper need to trust in God.

Prayer Prompt: Lord, You are the solid Rock we stand on. Thank you for using the storms in our lives to reveal our foundation as You teach us to build our lives on You. Even when we don't feel ready, we trust that You've given us everything we need for the season we're in. We love You. In Jesus' name, amen.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church sermon notes: More Ready Than You Recognize - Pastor Steven Furtick – 2/2/2026

AI enabled summary

Building on the Rock: Readiness Through Life's Storms

Feb 2, 2026 • 1 hour

Overview: Worship service and sermon emphasizing that “You’re more ready than you recognize,” anchored in Matthew 7:24–29. The message urges practicing Jesus’ words, distinguishing normal “weather” of life from spiritual warfare, and trusting God’s provision even when we feel unprepared. Illustrations include COVID-era ministry, sudden storms, Mark 8’s “bread in the boat,” David and Solomon’s resources, and David versus Goliath. The service ends with a salvation invitation and practical next steps.

Worship and Corporate Prayer

- Exuberant praise centered on the name of Jesus and giving God full glory.
- Corporate prayer declaring: in Jesus’ name all things are possible; every need met; sins forgiven; “His blood is enough.”
- Petition for God to move physically, emotionally, and spiritually; acknowledgment that God’s word (Isaiah 55) “never returns void.”

Context and Announcements

- Weather prompted a lean, early gathering; strong encouragement for in-person return next week.
- Celebration: approaching “two decades of divine miracles” (20-year anniversary) next week; Elevation Orlando campus celebrates 6 years.
- Tour announcement: Elevation Nights, Feb 24–Mar 5, elevationnights.com — Hershey (PA), Brooklyn (NY), Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Grand Rapids, Knoxville (TN), Columbus (OH), Chicago (IL).

Core Scripture and Thesis

- Main text: Matthew 7:24–29; focus on v.25: rain fell, streams rose, winds blew and beat against the house; it stood because its foundation was on the rock.
- Thesis: “You’re more ready than you recognize.” God often provides even when we don’t feel prepared.
- Both houses in Jesus’ teaching faced storms; Christian faith strengthens perspective and perseverance but does not prevent storms.

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church sermon notes: More Ready Than You Recognize - Pastor Steven Furtick – 2/2/2026

Teaching vs. Training; Practice Over Posting

- **Difference: Teaching gives notes about storms; training puts you through storms.**
- **Jesus' power is in practice: "Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice."**
- Call to "practice praise" to build muscle and miracle memory for sudden storms.
- Weather vs. Warfare: Distinguishing Life's Challenges
- **Not every challenge is demonic attack; much is ordinary "weather" (life's fluctuations, exhaustion, lack of sleep, traffic).**
- **Over-attributing to the devil grants him undue power; some issues need practical care (rest, movement, sunlight), not deliverance.**
- Faithfulness is not measured by "goose bumps"; God is constant whether feelings are high or low.
- Provision Despite Feeling Unprepared: "Loaf in the Boat"
- Mark 8:14–21: Disciples worry about bread; Jesus reminds them of the 5,000 (12 baskets) and 4,000 (7 baskets). Question: "Do you still not understand?"
- Key principle: Lack of preparation does not negate God's prior provision. Look for the "loaf in the boat" you've overlooked.
- **Encouragement to those blindsided by health, family, finances, relationships, singleness, fertility, panic, relapse, or confusion: be "confidently confused"—God has provided for what surprised you.**

Resource, Relationship, and Rock

- 1 Chronicles 29: David publicly prepares resources for Solomon to build God's house: gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood, and precious stones "in large quantities."
- **Application: "Build with it." You have what you need for this season because you have resource and, more importantly, relationship with the Source.**
- Triad refrain: "I've got resource. I've got relationship. I've got rocks."
- David and Goliath Illustration (Practicing Prepares You)
- Impromptu illustration with Graham recounting 1 Samuel 16–17: David anointed as king while still tending sheep; faces Goliath after faithful practice in obscurity.
- David rejects Saul's armor, selects five smooth stones, and uses what he has practiced. Point: Calling proves God's confidence; practice under pressure reveals readiness.
- Emphasis: One stone was enough—use your "rock."
- What Storms Reveal; Building Before the Storm
- **Storms often reveal foundations rather than ruin houses. The house stood for what was unseen: its foundation.**
- **Lord reveals truth (Provider, Healer, Righteousness, Sufficiency, Holiness, Worth), while storms reveal our trust.**
- **Don't fixate on who sent the storm; decide what you will stand on in it. Build on the rock, not the sand of unstable circumstances.**

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

Elevation Church sermon notes: More Ready Than You Recognize - Pastor Steven Furtick – 2/2/2026

Encouragement and Pastoral Exhortations

- **Don't confuse general drain with spiritual opposition; many vocations and situations are tiring—gratitude over complaint.**
- Refrain: “On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.”
- Peter's confession: “You are the Christ”; Jesus builds His church on that rock, knowing Peter's failures—God often builds from “rock bottom.”
- Invitation and Salvation Prayer
- Call to place faith in Jesus as firm foundation in life's storms.
- Guided prayer of salvation: confess Jesus as Lord, believe God raised Him, receive new life by grace through faith.
- Response: raise hand or type “I'm receiving Jesus” and follow the link in chat for support and next steps.

Upcoming Actions and Next Steps

- In-person return encouraged next week for the 20-year anniversary celebration.
- Tour: Elevation Nights, Feb 24–Mar 5 — Hershey (PA), Brooklyn (NY), Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Grand Rapids, Knoxville (TN), Columbus (OH), Chicago (IL); tickets at elevationnights.com.
- For new believers: indicate decision in chat (“I'm receiving Jesus”) and follow provided link for resources and prayer.
- Personal application: Put Jesus' words into practice this week; “build with” the resources God has provided; distinguish weather from warfare; stand on the Rock in every storm.

Key points:

- Just because I'm not prepared doesn't mean God hasn't provided.
- Difference: Teaching gives notes about storms; training puts you through storms.
- Jesus' power is in practice: “Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice.”
- Not every challenge is demonic attack; much is ordinary “weather” (life's fluctuations, exhaustion, lack of sleep, traffic).
- Over-attributing to the devil grants him undue power; some issues need practical care (rest, movement, sunlight), not deliverance.
- Encouragement to those blindsided by health, family, finances, relationships, singleness, fertility, panic, relapse, or confusion: be “confidently confused”—God has provided for what surprised you.
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Part 2: eGroup study questions

Kev's guys on-line eGroup study notes

•Elevation Sermon Notes – “It’s Worth The Dirt” by Pastor Steven Furtick on January 25, 2026

- Just because I'm not prepared doesn't mean God hasn't provided.
- Difference: Teaching gives notes about storms; training puts you through storms.

- Jesus’ power is in practice: “Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice.”

Quote by C.S. Lewis:

What we call “being in love” is a glorious state, and, in several ways, good for us. It helps to make us generous and courageous; it opens our eyes not only to the beauty of the beloved but to all beauty, and it subordinates (especially at first) our merely animal sexuality; in that sense. Love is the great conqueror of lust. No one in his senses would deny that being in love is far better than either common sensuality or cold self-centredness . . . Being in love is good thing, but it is not the best thing. You can not make it the basis of your whole life. It is noble feeling, but it is still a feeling. **To Love and Be Loved in the second sense - love as distinct from “being in love” is not merely a feeling. It is deep unity maintained by will and deliberately strengthened by habit; reinforced by the grace which both partners ask and receive from God. . . . Being “in love” first moved them to promise of fidelity: this** quieter love enables them to keep the promise. It is on this love the engine of marriage is run: being in love is the explosion that started it.”

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Lordship issue – the mark of authenticity

- He who does the will of my father.
- You either abandon your will or your do not. You can have it both ways
- **It is possible to be emotionally stimulated and socially useful and not want God.**
- **Are you serving God or using God?**
- I want the sense of meaning in life, however I dot want to be a in position to decide for myself.
- I do not want to be in a position where I do not get to decide for myself.
- **Have you surrendered your will?**
- **Authentic = Teachable with many faults.**
- **Authentic = Quick to repent and forgive**
- **Authentic = I want to know when I am disobedient**
- See Saul and challenge from Samuel. Saul: You fool God did not want the sheep.



The Grace Issue – the mark of authenticity

- A grasp of the grace of God
- **The house represents all of the religious activity**
- The one house is based on the rock of Jesus Christ.
- The second house is on sand meaning that the other house is its own foundation.
- If your obedience is your own foundation, he will never know you.
- **A Christian says: “Father, my repentance is half hearted, my affection for you is cold, my obedience is weak. I fail often, but your son dies for me, died my death, paid my penalty and welcomed me for his sake.**
- You admit that a person can only be a Christian by the Grace of God alone.
- See Paul in Phil 3: My faultless record is counted as lost so that I can gain Christ.
- Acceptability only through God and Christ
- **Only then is my house build on a rock.**
- You become personal with God. Not an abstraction.
- **A sense of personal dealing. Not just a flare.**

- Closing Prayer #1: “I came to remind you, God does dirt. He breathes on brokenness. It's worth it. Jesus stretched his arms because it's worth it. I encourage you today. Say I do to the dirt. Make a commitment in your life. Lord, no matter how long it takes me, I believe you can wash me clean. God, here I am again, dirty again, disappointed again. But I heard you do dirt. I heard you came from heaven, lived in a little town called Nazareth. And died on a cruel cross. Splinters in your back, lashes. The wounds in your side, the nails in your hands. I heard you do dirt. Father, would you take my life today? All that I am, all that I'm not. My little loaves, my little mustard seed life and bring branches forth from them. Father, I pray today for those who are feeling alone or abandoned or forsaken. Maybe they've even buried their hope. As I pray to you, Lord, I'm reminded that the seed appeared to be buried, but it was indeed planted. That means it served a purpose. I thank you that the dirt is serving a purpose in each of our lives. And I thank you that there is a treasure that the world cannot touch.”

- Closing Prayer #2: “We thank you that the kingdom of heaven is that treasure. You're worth it, Lord. Not just what you do for us, but who you are to us. You are worth it. You're worthy of our worship. You're worthy of our praise. You're worthy of our lives.” And now, God, I commend these treasures in a field to you, the diamonds and the dirt. I thank you that you know what you're doing. You know where you planted them. I thank you that they're growing by grace. Thank you for this word that we received today. We will never be the same.”

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.”