

Called to the Threshing Floor - October 18, 2026

Kevin Diggs All right. I can't make it past my own worship team every week. Man. I need my my own personal box of tissue. It's getting real. It's getting real crazy around here. Um, I'm going to throw you another curveball. Alex, let's go back to the Matthew three. We're going to open up that way. I've been back and forth with Alex. I feel bad for him. I've been tell him I'm going to open up this way. We're going to open up that way. And, uh, he's Johnny on the spot. He's ready. Yeah. Um, let me start off by saying this. We have a we have a special guest in the house. Yes we do. Miss Elizabeth James is here tonight. Everybody. Yeah. What a blessing. Four days old. I want to say this to you about the song Fab. If you got any excuses for missing church, they just took them all for you. Amen. We also want to recognize another friend of ours and our family member. Uh, Chloe and Daylan. Uh, had a had a son, Mr. Dawson, Tate, Arden, everybody make some noise. Was born yesterday. So the Lord is blessing this house. Blessing this house. Well, not just spiritual fruit, but actually children. It's spreading out our tent pegs physically and spiritually. Amen. Amen. You know, I know it's not, uh, it's not any dedication time, but do me a favor. Stretch out your hand towards that. That child. Lord God, we thank you for Ellie tonight. We thank you, Lord God, that she will be a child of the presence of God. She will always know the love of God, Lord, and she will walk with a different countenance. Lord God, she will no longer know the generational issues that we had before. She will step into a new kind of love, Lord God, and walk with a new bright light. She will always know the love of God. And so, Lord God, we thank you. We thank you for this child. Lord God, we thank you, Lord God, that children are arrows in our quiver, but we will point them in the right direction. We will bring them up in the ways so they will never depart. Lord God. Lord God, we thank you for this mighty woman of God. She may be a baby now, but you have a purpose for her and you have seen it from the beginning to the end. Lord God, so we bless this family tonight and we bless Ellie. In Jesus name we pray. And everyone said Amen and amen. Alright, well, let's just go ahead and get started. Turn to Matthew chapter three, Matthew chapter three, Verses ten through twelve. Ten through twelve. This is going to be the, uh, the words of John the Baptist. Let me give you a moment. Matthew chapter three, verses ten through twelve. And I'm going to read the New Living Translation. Even now, the acts of God's judgment is poised, ready to sever the roots of the trees. Yes, every tree that does not produce good fruit will be chopped down and thrown into the fire. I baptize with water those who repent of their sins and turn to God. But someone is coming soon who is greater than I am. So much greater than. I'm not even worthy to be a slave and carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. He is ready to separate the chaff from the wheat with the winnowing fork. This will clean up the threshing area. Gather the wheat into the barn, but burning the chaff. And never with a never ending fire. The message tonight is titled called to the Threshing floor. Called to the threshing floor. Lord God, I just thank you for this word. I thank you, Lord God, for what you're doing in our lives. Heavenly father, I just feel the more and more we surrender, the more and more you reveal. Yes, Lord God, I'm beginning to understand the words of Paul where he says everything else he considers to be garbage. His only pursuit is to know you, to know you, to know the depths of who you are, the riches and glory that you have stored up for all of your sons and daughters. Lord God, help us to recognize the identity that you have already called us into. Walk into Lord God we live from

that victory, Lord God. We live from that identity. We sit in high places with you, Lord, and we thank you for what you have done in our lives. In Jesus name we pray. Amen and amen.

Alright. You know, last week we discussed being children of the promise and how the Lord is preparing us as a people to rejoice over what he is about to birth in our lives. We learn that God's promises often meet resistance, whether through our own human nature or self-reliance, or through the enemy's attempts to hinder what God has spoken over us. Yet we saw through the story of Abraham last week that God's faithfulness is not dependent upon our perfection. We discover that what is produced through human effort cannot replace what God has ordained through his promise, Ishmael. Through human effort was born according to the flesh, while Isaac was the son of the promise. This reveals an important spiritual truth. What we attempt to produce through our own strength can never replace what God has purposed to bring forth. But I continued meditating on this, and as I began to see some things deeper, God is not only bringing forth his promise in our lives, he's also continuing to build us into the people he called us to become through Christ. Those who are once far off have been brought near, have been made new creations and grafted into the promises of God. Yet, while our new identity in Christ has already been established, the Holy Spirit continues to transform us as we grow into the fullness of that identity. Let me say that again. While our identity in Christ has already been established, the Holy Spirit continues to transform us as we grow into the fullness of that identity. That's the tension that we work towards, the tension that says we've already been made new, yet we are still being transformed. We have been brought into the promise, yet we are learning to live as children from that promise. You see, Paul tells us in Galatians from last week's message that there are two children, one that was made by Self-effort and one that was part of the promise. And what I want you to understand is when Paul was speaking that way, we shouldn't look at it. And I find that my that that that throughout my life, I've looked at Scripture saying, well, I'm on the good side. I'm the child of the promise. And I'm not suggesting that we're not. But what I am suggesting is that you weren't always a child of the promise. You started off outside of the promise. It was when you gave your life over to Christ, and you were born again through water and spirit when you became a child of the promise. But we have to remember the already. Not yet. You are saved. You are being saved. You are perfected and sit in high places. You are being perfected. And see what happens with Christians is we have a tendency to believe that it's complete. I've given my life over to God. I've repeated the message I've got saved. Everything's over. And then what we do is we read Scripture through that lens. This is what happens. And so now we sit there and say, well, I'm on this side. So everything I read, I sit on this side, but the Lord is really telling us, no, I'm bringing you from one measure of glory to the next measure of glory to the next measure of glory. And we need to start reading scripture as though we are still humble. We are still slaves to Christ. And like Paul said, I have one pursuit to know him, to know him greater than I knew him the day before. Yes, see, Paul said, I gained all this knowledge. I was Pharisee, a Pharisee. I knew all these things. And he said, it doesn't matter. He says, because I have one pursuit. It's the race that they tell us to run in Hebrews, to know him, to know him through experience, not just knowledge, information, to really know our God. And so it caused me to read Scripture differently. I am a child of the promise. I identify that way, but I'm learning how to live in that identity. And so when I read Matthew chapter three, I started seeing things differently. See, I'd always read this. This is like an end times thing, right? The Lord's come

with his winnowing fork, and it's the threshing floor. And how many people have read it this way? This is the end times. This is when God separates us all. This is when he separates the believers from the non-believers. Can I tell you something? What is it about Christians that always says, well, we're on the believing side, and here's the world. When the Lord was always teaching the church, right? Always teaching the church. And so it's the separation, the world and the church or within the church, right? So you have to understand what he's saying here. You have to dig deep because if you look at it from a perspective I'm already in, then you think you've been perfected. That's right. And there's nowhere else to go. Right? But that's what second Corinthians three says from one measure of glory to the next measure of glory. And so when I was reading this, I realized that the Lord was saying something to me. See, I brought the church to the threshing floor. There were things about my body, things about the church body that I need to get rid of. See, you are children of the promise, but we're working from that identity. I'm trying to get you to understand that identity. So when you read it from that perspective, we've all come to the threshing floor. Now, I want to read a story to you, because I knew that I wanted to talk about the presence of God. There was something on my heart about the presence of God. And there's still some things that I want to get to, but the Lord has not allowed me to get to where I'm trying to get to. He wants me to stay right here and say, I want you to preach this first so people understand. So turn if you would to second Samuel chapter six. Did I really give you the new international version? It's okay. It's fine. We'll just do it. This is where my eyes are so bad. Second Samuel, chapter six, the new international version. Apparently, David again brought together all the able young men of Israel. Thirty thousand. He and all his men went to Bala. Let's just say that in Judah and bring up the ark of God, which he called by name the name of the Lord Almighty, who is enthroned between the cherubim and the ark. They set the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it from the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill Uzza in Ohio. Sons of Abinadab were guiding the new cart with the ark of God on it, and Uzza was walking in front of it. David. And all of Israel was celebrating with all their might before the Lord with castanets, harps, lyres, trembles, sistrams, and cymbals. When they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah reached out and took hold of the ark of God because the oxen stumbled. The Lord's anger burned against Uzza because of the irreverent act. Therefore God struck him down, and he died there beside the ark of God. Then David was angry because the Lord's wrath had broken out against Uzzah, and this day it. To this day this place is called Perez Uzzah. David was afraid of the Lord that day, and said, how can the ark of the Lord ever come to me? He was not willing to take the ark of the Lord to be with him in the city of David. Instead, he took it to the house of Obed Edom, the Gittite. The ark of the Lord remained in the house of Obed Edom, the Gittite for three months. And the Lord blessed him and his entire household. Now King David told the Lord told. The Lord has blessed the household of Obed Edom, and everything he has, but of. Because of the ark of God. So David went to bring up the ark of God from the house of Obed Edom to the city of David with rejoicing. When those who were carrying the ark of the Lord had taken six steps, he sacrificed a bull in a fattened calf wearing linen ephod. David was dancing before the Lord with all of his might, while he and all of Israel were bringing up the ark of the Lord with shouts and sounds of triumph. As the ark of the Lord was entering the city of David. Michael, daughter of Saul, watched from the window, and when she saw King David leaping and dancing from the Lord, she despised him in her heart. They brought the ark of the Lord

and set it in its place inside the tent that David had pitched for it. And David sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings before the Lord. After he had finished sacrificing the burnt offerings and fellowship offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord Almighty. Then he gave a loaf of bread, a cake of dates, and a cake of raisins to each person in the whole crowd of Israelites, both men and women and all the people went to their homes. When David returned home to bless his household. May, called the daughter of Saul, came out to meet him and said, how the King of Israel has distinguished himself today, going around half naked in full view of the slave girls of his servants, and any vulgar fellow would. David said to Macall, it was before the Lord who chose me rather than your father or anyone from his house, when he appointed me ruler over the Lord's peoples of Israel, I will celebrate before the Lord. I will become even more undignified than this, and I will be humiliated, humiliated in my own eyes. But by these slave girls you spoke of, I will be held in honor. And McCall, daughter of Saul, had no children to the day of her death. Sorry, I was reading a whole different version all week and I just did this to myself. This story stood out to me, and I couldn't figure out why the Lord had led me here. But as I kept reading, I began to understand what God was starting to say. Now this story is written in two places. It's written in second Samuel chapter six, and it's also written in first Chronicles chapter thirteen, fourteen, and fifteen. Now we're not going to go through the entire story again, but I thought it was important that we read this. What's taking place is that the people of Israel have now gotten over the time where there was conflict between Saul and David. David is now living out the promises that God has given him. He was chased for eight years. He was to be destined. He was anointed. To be king is what I should say. And although he was anointed to be king, he was being attacked by the very people he was supposed to be king over. And yet that time has ended. David has now stepped into the full promise of God. And yet we're going to see something about David that he learns because David has come to the threshing floor. Now I want to read it a little bit differently. It opens up in First Chronicles this way. First Chronicles chapter thirteen, verses one through four. This is the New Living Translation. David consulted with all his officials, including the generals and the captains of his army. Then he addressed the entire assembly of Israel as follows if you approve, if it is the will of the Lord our God, let us send messages to all the Israelites throughout the land, including the priests and the Levites in their towns and Pasturelands Let us invite them to come and join us. It's time to bring back the ark of God, for we neglected it. During the reign of Saul. The whole assembly agreed to this, for the people could see it was the right thing to do. See, this is what was great about David. David was now living the promise. David was King of Israel. David had everything you could imagine. This was the strongest the kingdom of God was going to be on earth. This is when the full promises that God had given to David and through Solomon, his son. You'll see if you keep reading this time frame between these two, it's the strongest that the people of Israel will actually be. But yet David knew something was missing. You see, David understood something. David realized it's not about the palace. It's not about the people under me. We need to go get the Ark. We need to go get the presents and put the presents in its rightful position. See? Because. What was David? David was a man that chased after God's heart. See, the Lord said, I have found a man. I have found a man. And what David realized is that the man that I knew in the field when I was a boy, the man that I learned about in the cave when Saul was chasing me, cannot be replaced by things that a kingdom can give me. And so there was something honorable about

David. David knew that he needed the presence. David figured out what Moses figured out. Yes. David figured out what? What Joshua figured out in the lingering tent that it was always about the presence of God. So David's heart posture was in the right area. Now, I want you to think about this. David says because the ark had been neglected. Now watch the heart of David real quick. It says in Psalms twenty seven four, one thing I have desired of the Lord, that I will seek, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple. Psalms eighty four ten for a day in your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wickedness. This was David's heart. David was saying, I can inherit the entire world, but it doesn't matter. We gotta go get the ark. And the presence has to be amongst the people. This is what I'm here to tell you right now. In this hour, the Lord is raising David's in the church. There are. David's being raised in a church, in case you hadn't noticed. They're here and they're not going to have four year theological degrees, because I believe the Lord's had enough of that, because what we're doing is we're recreating the same person from the seminary school, and nothing's being enlightened, but the Lord is raising people up. Because I can tell you right now, Peter didn't go to school, right? John didn't go to school, right. In fact, all the schooling they had for three and a half years, the Lord said, don't go yet. Don't go until the helper comes. So they couldn't even go based on what they learned, because it's not about information. The Lord said, I told you to follow. I just want you to follow. So what does he want you to do? He wants you to follow. He doesn't want you to take the information you got and apply it yourself. He just keeps telling you to follow because the spirit will give you the answer. What he's looking for is David's that just follow and stop thinking, will I learn this? I have the answer. No, you don't have it because the answer is so much deeper than what you really know. This is what's happening in the church. God is raising David's David's that have found the Lord in their their secret place. Yes, there are David's in congregations everywhere that have been in caves. Yes, there are David's that have been in fields. And God is raising them up. I want you to keep this in mind. The church is coming to the threshing floor. Now the church. We have witnessed seasons of awakening, growth and favor. We have built sanctuaries, established platforms, and raise recognizable ministries and brands. But we must ask ourselves, have we become so focused on building for God that we have neglected the presence?

Speaker 2 Yes.

Kevin Diggs Have we neglected the ark? What does John four say, for the father is seeking those who will worship him in spirit and in truth. He's saying we need to look beyond the buildings, look beyond the platforms, look beyond the brands that we have raised up, and return to a church that's life is centered around the presence. If you remember Ezekiel forty seven and all the rivers were flowing with life, and it brought life everywhere. What you need to know is the rivers started from the temple, but you don't even need to know that. You need to know that the presence was in the temple.

Speaker 2 Yes.

Kevin Diggs The life flowing waters come from the presence.

Speaker 2 Amen.

Kevin Diggs And it's time for the church to return to that raising up, David, that no matter how big the buildings have gotten, no matter how big the sanctuary has gotten, it doesn't matter. They're willing to count the cost and say, we need to go get the presents. When we continue reading. Second Samuel six, now three through seven, back in verse three. They set the ark of God on a new cart and brought it from his house, the house of Abinadab, which was on a hill. Uzza in Ohio. Sons of Abinadab were guiding the new cart with the ark of God on it. And Ohio was walking in front of it. David and all of Israel were celebrating with all their might before the Lord with castanets, harps, lyres, trembles, sistrums, and cymbals. When they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah reached out and took hold of the ark of God. Because of the oxen stumbled. The Lord's anger burned against Uzzah because of his irreverent act. Therefore God struck him down and he died there besides the ark. David and the people of Israel realized that the ark needed to be returned to the people of Israel. But as we see from the Scripture, the ark had been neglected. The presence had been neglected. As a result, the people grew accustomed to living without the presence of God occupying its rightful place. Think about that. The people grew into something. It was a hybrid development. They had forgotten what it meant to properly steward the presence of God that rested upon the ark. Instead of moving the ark the way God instructed in the Book of Numbers, they used man made methods a cart To transport the presence of God. They adopted a method that had been used by the Philistines rather than following the instructions God had given the people. I want you to notice something here. I want you to watch this. It says, they set the Ark of God on a new cart. I'm going to get to that one and brought it from the house of Abinadab, which was on a hill. But watch some things here. Uzzah and Ohio sons of Ben were guiding, guiding the new cart with the ark on it. So they built this cart, a man made cart, and before I get to the man made cart, they were guiding it. So now I want you to think about this. How many times when the church has come to the threshing floor, they built a church model, it said, will usher in the presence this way, and instead of the presence leading, we'll guide it. Yeah, we'll we'll guide it. Did you notice the position of Ohio? Was he behind the arc or was he leading it? So instead of the arc leading like it led the people in the Promised Land, the man put himself in the position of front and he was leading the presence. And so David, who was a man after the Lord's heart, is now still having to learn how to steward the presence.

Speaker 2 Yes.

Kevin Diggs He's still a man of the promise. But there are man made efforts mixed in to David. Do you see it? Do you remember what Paul said in Galatians he had two sons. One was from man made effort. One was the son of the promise which you should be seeing is in each and every one of us. We got a little bit of Ishmael and we got a little bit of Isaac. And if we're going to live out the promise, we gotta get rid of the Ishmael. So the Isaac can flourish because what did it says? It says that only the son of the promise will inherit the promise. And so what we're seeing with the people of Israel is they have the right heart, heart postures, right. I need to go get the presents. But when they stuck the presence on the cart, they had neglected the presence so long they didn't know how to operate in it. So they started guiding the presence. They started leading the presence. Does that not sound familiar?

Speaker 2 Yes. Yes.

Kevin Diggs And they stuck it on their own man made structure. Don't we have a good business model? But look at our church. A thousand people attend. We had fifty baptisms, one hundred salvations. I love the number of the big churches, five hundred Salvations three hundred baptisms. Very little transformation. You see, they put it on a man made cart. They put it on a man made cart. A man made effort. A child of Ishmael. A man made effort. But when we read in the book of numbers it says that I want you to take the priest. Let them cleanse themselves. Let him be righteous before me, and I want them to carry the ark. And what the Lord was saying. Was that the presence was always meant to be on the people of God, always on the people of God. Now think about this. The presence is always supposed to be carried and resting on the people of God, not the system you built. But on the people of God resting on the people. So now if it's resting on the people, you start to feel something. What do you feel? See, if you carry something you feel. It's what weights. Now we're seeing how God measures.

Speaker 2 Yes, yes.

Kevin Diggs Now we're seeing how he measures. He doesn't measure by how many people walks in the door. He doesn't care if it's one. If it's a woman at the well, he'll take his time with her. But he says it's about the weight of my glory. When you feel the weight of God's glory. Something begins to change. You see, they were learning something here. God was saying, no, no, no, no no no no no no no no no no. You can't carry it that way. Because if you carry it that way, you're going to be broken. Now I'm going to talk about the tough part. The tough part is everybody reads Scripture wrong. See they don't think God so loved the world. They really don't see. They read the Old Testament say, But God struck them down dead. I don't read it the same way anymore. I see God's protection. I see God's love. This is what I'm seeing. The Lord is saying, if I allow you. To transport the presence that way, to usher in the presence, that way you will be Destroyed. Now, what did Uzzah do when it started to shake and it started to stumble? He tried to steady it with his own hand.

Speaker 2 Yes.

Kevin Diggs How many men have led churches that when the presence of God comes in and it doesn't fit into their church model and it starts to mess everything up, they go, I need to try to steady it with my own hand. That's a little too much happening over there, and a little too much of this happening over there. And then they were struck down.

Speaker 2 That's it.

Kevin Diggs Let us start reading with spiritual eyes, because the Lord said you were never meant to control what I'm doing. But now I want you to see it. I want you to carry the weight of God's glory. I want you to carry it Right now. It says this. Watch this. Says that Dave and I don't care about my notes anymore. Just figure out where it is. Okay. It says that David was angry and he was frustrated. It happened to us. Don't we feel that way sometimes? Don't we feel like we hear God and then we move maybe on our own effort because we're trying to press. We're trying to make something happen. We know that we are right. We know we're right. So I'm

gonna press, I'm gonna push right. And then something happens. And then we stop. We go, wait a minute, did I hear right? Is God really with me? Did I do that right? This is what David felt. He felt anger. He felt frustration. So what did he do? He left the presence. He left the ark with another family. Come on. I just said the church has come to the threshing floor.

Speaker 2 Yeah, yeah.

Kevin Diggs So what do men do when they can't properly steward the presents? They forget the promise and say, well, we'll leave it over there. I'm tired of playing games. I'm not here to put people down. God loves these people. But a man came to this community, and some of them drove out the prophet because it didn't fit in their man made system. And when they tried to steady things with their own hand, it shook. And then what they did was when they couldn't stir it properly, they said, leave it over there. Leave it over there. But David. David did something. No no no no no no no. Lord. I met you in a cave too much. I met you in a cave too much. I remember you in the field. I remember when I would sing to you, that evil spirit would leave Saul. That's the God I remember. So now let me think about this. Were you really striking somebody down or were you protecting us? Now watch this. David, in one Chronicles fifteen two. Figure something out. Then he commanded him. No one except the Levites may carry the ark of God. The Lord has chosen them to carry the ark of the Lord and to serve him forever. Now watch this same chapter, verses thirteen through fifteen. David acknowledged he repented that he failed to ask God how to move the ark properly. This time the priests and Levites consecrated themselves, and the Levites carried the ark on their shoulders with its carrying pulse, just as the Lord instructed him. Notice what David did differently this time. He recognized that something had gone wrong, and he returned to God's instructions. David did what he always did. I know what I'll do. I'll inquire of the Lord. I'll inquire of the Lord. I won't be so Proudful. And so married to what has been built, knowing that everything that has been built belongs to God. I'll pivot like I always do. But before I pivot, I'll find out what direction I'll inquire of the Lord. Now, what really happened? The ark was on a man made system with man made people guiding it. It comes to the threshing floor, the threshing floor and it shakes and it begins to fall at the threshing floor. And the Lord goes, no, no, no, no, you can't do it that way. Something happens here. What happens at a threshing floor? At a threshing floor? They take the stalks and they beat the stalks down. Okay. Christ will one day be beaten down. Beat it down. Beat the stalks. And then with the winnowing fork. They start to pitch it in the air. And as they pitch it in the air, the chaff. What did I say? Sheriff. Sheriff. I thought it was almost in tears. The chaff gets blown away in the wind and the grain falls. It moves like the wind. No one knows where it goes. You can't control it. You can ask where it comes from. And you won't know. No one knows where it's going. He's at the threshing floor. You're trying to guide what no one will know. You're trying to guide and lead what only can lead you. And so what he does is when it crumbles, instead of seeing it as a tragedy that someone died. See God's mercy saying, you can't go any further than this. I'm shaking it. So everything that needs to fall off in the wind moves on. But the good grain of David's will fall and he'll inquire of me. And now the presence is being stewarded correctly. I read that scripture now differently. It's not just an end time scripture when he separates the believers from the non-believers. We all come to the threshing floor. We come to the threshing floor where the Lord says, by the power of the Holy Spirit, by the person of the Holy Spirit. I'm going to burn away the things that don't belong

there, but I'm going to refine the things that do belong there. Now, do you see what the Lord was doing? They were children of the promise and he was keeping his promise. He was saying, you can't go past the threshing floor as an Ishmael because Ishmael's cannot inherit the promise. You have to go past the threshing floor. The way I tell you to go through it, you have to let me lead. David inquired of the Lord in the presence of God. And wouldn't you know his inquiry of the. Of the Lord and the presence of God told him how to handle the presence of God.

Speaker 2 Yeah.

Kevin Diggs The church has come to the threshing floor.

Speaker 2 Yes.

Kevin Diggs God, in his grace and mercy, has allowed men to realize we've neglected the presence for a time. The Lord has allowed us to build this way, but we put a lot of weight in things that don't have any depth. There's nothing in it. And the Lord is saying, now you've come to the threshing floor and you're feeling the shake. Hebrews chapter twelve, everything that can be shaken will be shaken. So only the unshakeable remains.

Speaker 2 That's it.

Kevin Diggs Do you not see the warfare? Forget. Forget worldly politics for a moment. Forget that, forget that, forget that. Okay. Watch the religious spirit. Okay. Matter of fact. What did Jesus say? Beware of the leaven of Herod and the Pharisees. What did Herod represent? Politics. What did the Pharisees represent? The religious spirit and the combination of the two?

Speaker 2 Yeah.

Kevin Diggs Nothing in it. Knowing me. Focus. Knowing me. Focus. Knowing me. Now watch. Here we have a people that's come to the threshing floor. And the church has now come to that same place. And what God is trying to get them to realize. It's my grace and mercy that's shaking you. It's my grace and mercy that has brought you here. It's my grace and mercy that you're even in this spot. Won't you inquire of me? Won't you inquire of me? Because there's something on the other side of this that I want you to birth. I know this is heavy, but I want you to see it. Because I know this church embraces the presence and it allows it to lead. But there are still little things about us, even me, that he's refining. I gotta I gotta take that part out. I gotta take that part out. But that that part right there, we're going to refine and we come to the threshing floor and we receive God's correction and we get offended sometimes. Oh, we, oh, we, oh, we feel bad for ourselves. Why, Lord, when the Lord goes, because I love you, right?

Speaker 2 Yes.

Kevin Diggs Because I love you.

Speaker 2 Yes.

Kevin Diggs Do you see what happens when you read this in context? Because I love you.

You. I won't let you go any further because it'll destroy you. Yes, I love you. Now let's keep reading. I gotta go back to my crazy little version that I gave Matt. Says King. David began to dance. This time it's different. He stripped down and started dancing. Can I say this? The Lord is looking for people that'll dance.

Speaker 2 And run.

Kevin Diggs And run.

Speaker 2 Yes. Yes.

Kevin Diggs But can I tell you this? Watch this. I'm not talking about meaningless. Look at me dancing. That's not what I'm talking about. Mhm. No no no, no. You see, a lot of people like to say. I'm going to draw some attention to me. I'm going to go off and act like I'm Pentecostal on, like, steroids because I'm gonna force this thing. No no no no. David, dance. And it cost him. He was going to cost him his reputation. David counted the cost. David said, you see this palace and all you gave me and all these people that are under me, I don't care. I'm stripping down to my underwear and I'm dancing. And I don't care what people think about me because I've counted the cost. Because it don't matter if I'm a king of a kingdom. If you're not with me. I want the presence. And the Lord is looking for dancers. He's looking for dancers that are willing to count the cost. So really the question is, are you dancing or are you sacrificing something? Because that's what he wants. David's dance was costing him to the eyes of his wife, McCall.

Speaker 2 Yeah.

Kevin Diggs She looked at him and said, you look ridiculous in front of all those slave girls. But it didn't faze him because David knew in his heart, no, I'm a man that loves the Lord. I've been in the caves way too much. I've been in the fields too much. I've counted the cost. And this is all the value that I need. The value is in the Lord. Now what? Watch this. The Lord will never leave you or forsake you. You'll never experience shame. When McCall criticized David for dancing. She was barren for the rest of her life. No children. She wasn't willing to count the cost. How many leaders are not willing to count the cost because of fear that they might look ridiculous in the presence? Worried about what the congregant might say. Somebody spoke in tongues out loud. Pastor, you know that's not right. Can we have a meeting? They're falling out all over. Lord. This is weird. Seeker safe. They're not willing to count the costs. They've built some kingdoms. They got some value. And you're like, Lord, you want me to. You want me to give this up? And the Lord goes, well, since it never really belonged to you.

Speaker 2 Yeah yeah yeah yeah yeah.

Kevin Diggs But David counted the cost. I'm. I'm on this for some reason. And then when she was criticized, David wasn't put to shame. She was struck barren. Now watch. What did we learn? And Isaiah fifty four and Galatians four. Single barren woman, you who have not born, break forth into singing and cry aloud. You. Have not you. You who have not labored with a child for more, are the children of the desolate than the children of the married woman, says the Lord, and large the place of your tents, and let them stretch out the curtains of your

dwellings. Do not spare. Lengthen your cords, and strengthen your stakes, for you shall expand to the right and to the left, and your descendants will inherit the nations and make desolate the cities inhabited your descendants, the child that walked in, those people right there, all the ones in the back.

Speaker 2 Yeah.

Kevin Diggs Do not fear, do not fear, do not fear. All you dancing David's. For you shall not be ashamed, neither be disgrace, for you will not be put to shame, for you will forget the shame of your youth, and will not remember the reproach of your widowhood any more. For your maker is your husband. The Lord of hosts is his name, and your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel. He is called God of the entire earth. The Lord is saying, when you yield. When you inquire of me, when you let the winnowing fork of the spirit do what it needs to do, get ready to give birth. When you count the cost, get ready to give birth. Something's happening and I know many of you feel it. The church is getting ready to give birth.

Speaker 2 Yes.

Kevin Diggs David's are getting ready to emerge everywhere, and it's not going to look like what you think it looks like, because it's going to be people that said, I've counted the cost. I have counted it and I'm willing to step forward. I don't care about what was built. I'm willing to let it all go so I can proceed forward in God. The church has come to the threshing floor. We make up the church and the Lord is looking for dancing. David's.

Speaker 2 Yes, yes.

Kevin Diggs This is how you are a child of the promise. That is your identity. But you begin to step into that identity. See, the Lord said to me, continue to let me lead you. Continue to let the presence lead the people of Mark two twenty two. And if you do that. You will not be able to help but be fruitful and multiply, because that's what my presence does.

Speaker 2 Yes.

Kevin Diggs Please stand. I believe the Lord is looking for people who are willing to dance, willing to dance and worship before the Lord, not with man made ideas of reverence towards God, but the kind of reverence that the Lord approves of. You know, I looked up that word. A lot of people think reverence is. Oh, father, we. We have so much respect that we don't move. But enlarge something. There's a difference between respect and reverence. Respect says, I recognize you for this. But reverence says, I recognize you and you're out of the ordinary. And because of that, I have a different feeling towards you. We serve a God that's not ordinary to this world. We are called to be a peculiar people. Not weird, but different. And the Lord is looking for dancing, David. And I believe we have a lot of them in this church. Willing to count the cost at the threshing floor. You know what I've learned? The threshing floor is on Thursday nights. The threshing floors in your secret place. Because when you draw near to him, he promises he will always be there. Yes. This is where he refines you. This is where the renewing of your mind takes place. This is where you transform from one measure of glory to the next. And you begin to step into the identity you already have. I want to encourage you

tonight in this. Begin to read Scripture differently. If God's work was truly finished on the cross, then stop reading it as if something else has to happen. Read it as though whatever needs to happen can happen now if God's kingdom has truly come.

Speaker 2 Yes.

Kevin Diggs Then why don't you take the time to enter into the throne room? See, God's presence is in you, and it's all around you. And the Lord is looking for dancing. David's that are ready to feel the weight of his glory. Yes. The Lord is going to take us further than we've ever gone. We're going deeper and deeper into his presence, and I cannot tell you what he's going to reveal, but I know we're going. And I just hear the Lord saying, now it's time. Kevin. Mark two twenty two understands and they can cross the threshold. We're ready to leave behind all the things that are not of God and walk with the things that are of the child of the promise. While I'm saying this, I want to invite anyone down. Anyone that feels like there might be something in their heart, something that might be holding them back. I don't care what it is. You don't have to tell me. I'm not interested in that. God knows. But if you feel like there's something

Kevin Diggs you want to let go, something that helps you cross over, I want you to come down right now. I'll wait. We're going to pray. Come on down.