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# Wonderful Wednesdays With Jesus

## Wednesdays in the Word Bible Study

### February 25, 2026

## "Still Here: Preserved for a Purpose – Expanded Edition"

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First Baptist Church of Highland Park  
Pastor Henry Davis

Expanded Bible Study with Old and New Testament Support and Black History Illustrations

### **Purpose of This Study**

During Black History Month, we pause to recognize that just as God preserved our ancestors through slavery, segregation, and struggle, He has preserved us. Tonight, we take a deeper dive into the biblical truth that being 'Still Here' is evidence of God's sustaining power and purposeful plan.

### **Primary Anchor Scripture**

Lamentations 3:22–23 (NLT)

'The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning.'

### **Supporting Old Testament Scriptures**

Psalms 124:1–2, 8 (NLT)

'What if the Lord had not been on our side? ... Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.'

Isaiah 46:4 (NLT)

'I will be your God throughout your lifetime... I made you, and I will care for you. I will carry you along and save you.'

Deuteronomy 31:8 (NLT)

'Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord will personally go ahead of you. He will be with you.'

## Supporting New Testament Scriptures

2 Corinthians 4:8–9 (NLT)

'We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed... struck down, but not destroyed.'

Philippians 1:6 (NLT)

'He who began a good work in you will continue his work until it is finally finished.'

Hebrews 12:28 (NLT)

'Since we are receiving a Kingdom that is unshakable, let us be thankful.'

## Hebrew Word Study

'Rachamim' – Mercies

This word describes deep compassion. It reflects God's emotional connection to His people.

'Emunah' – Faithfulness

This means firmness, security, and reliability. God is steady even when life is unstable.

## Teaching Movement 1: God Preserved You Through What Should Have Destroyed You

Biblical Example: Daniel in the lion's den (Daniel 6:22)

God shut the mouths of lions.

Black History Illustration:

Harriet Tubman suffered seizures from a childhood injury but still made over 19 dangerous trips to free enslaved Africans. She declared, 'God kept me.'

Teaching Truth:

You are still here because God blocked what was trying to break you.

## Teaching Movement 2: God Preserved You When You Didn't Even Know You Needed Preservation

Biblical Example: Joseph (Genesis 50:20)

'You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good.'

Black History Illustration:

During the Middle Passage, millions did not survive—but those who did carried faith, song, and hope that sustained generations.

Teaching Truth:

God was protecting you even when you didn't recognize the danger.

## Teaching Movement 3: God Preserved You Because Your Purpose Is Not Finished

Biblical Example: Paul survived shipwreck (Acts 27:23–24)

God told him, 'You must stand before Caesar.'

Black History Illustration:

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. survived constant threats. After one near-death experience, he declared God promised him he would reach the mountaintop.

Teaching Truth:

If your purpose was finished, your life would be finished—but you're still here.

## Teaching Movement 4: Your Survival Is Someone Else's Encouragement

Biblical Example: Peter restored after failure (John 21:17)

Black History Illustration:

The survival of the Black Church through slavery, Jim Crow, and injustice has become a testimony to the entire world.

## Discussion Questions

1. Where have you seen God's preserving hand in your life?
2. What dangers did God bring you through?
3. How does your survival strengthen your faith?
4. Who needs your testimony?

## Application

Because you are still here:

- You still have purpose
- You still have assignment
- You still have calling
- You still have promise

## Celebratory Close

Declare this aloud:

I'm still here!

I survived!

I made it!

God kept me!

My purpose still lives!

My future is still calling!