

Grace and Kindness

2 Samuel 9:1-13, ESV – And David said, “Is there still anyone left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan’s sake?”² Now there was a servant of the house of Saul whose name was Ziba, and they called him to David. And the king said to him, “Are you Ziba?” And he said, “I am your servant.”³ And the king said, “Is there not still someone of the house of Saul, that I may show the kindness of God to him?” Ziba said to the king, “There is still a son of Jonathan; he is crippled in his feet.”⁴ The king said to him, “Where is he?” And Ziba said to the king, “He is in the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, at Lo-debar.”⁵ Then King David sent and brought him from the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, at Lo-debar.⁶ And Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan, son of Saul, came to David and fell on his face and paid homage. And David said, “Mephibosheth!” And he answered, “Behold, I am your servant.”⁷ And David said to him, “Do not fear, for I will show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan, and I will restore to you all the land of Saul your father, and you shall eat at my table always.”⁸ And he paid homage and said, “What is your servant, that you should show regard for a dead dog such as I?”

⁹ Then the king called Ziba, Saul’s servant, and said to him, “All that belonged to Saul and to all his house I have given to your master’s grandson.¹⁰ And you and your sons and your servants shall till the land for him and shall bring in the produce, that your master’s grandson may have bread to eat. But Mephibosheth your master’s grandson shall always eat at my table.” Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.¹¹ Then Ziba said to the king, “According to all that my lord the king commands his servant, so will your servant do.” So Mephibosheth ate at David’s table, like one of the king’s sons.¹² And Mephibosheth had a young son, whose name was Mica. And all who lived in Ziba’s house became Mephibosheth’s servants.¹³ So Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, for he ate always at the king’s table. Now he was lame in both his feet.

Notes:

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SERMON-BASED STUDY

For the week of July 19, 2020
2 Samuel 9:1-13

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

1 Why did David show Mephibosheth such kindness? What had Mephibosheth done to deserve it? Why does God show us grace today?

2 How did Mephibosheth respond to David's grace? How do we respond to the grace of the King of Kings, who is the ultimate example of it?

3 How has God shown you grace? How do you express your gratitude for it? Share a story when someone showed you the kindness of God like David did to Mephibosheth.

DIGGING DEEPER

A **John 9:1-7, ESV** – *As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.*

4 Looking at the passage above, how does Jesus use the blind man's physical impairment to teach a lesson?

5 Why did the disciples assume that the man's blindness was a result of someone's sin? Do people today think this way? Explain.

6 How did Jesus' grace and kindness transform the blind man's life? How has Jesus' grace and kindness transformed your life?

B **2 Corinthians 12:9-10, ESV** – ⁹But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

7 Why does Paul “boast” of his weaknesses? How is this counter-cultural?

8 How did God use Paul's weakness to display His grace and kindness? Who benefitted from this display of grace and kindness?

9 Describe a time in your life where God used your weakness to display His grace and kindness. How did it affect you? How did it affect others?

TAKING IT HOME

Sometimes God uses our past hurts and pains in the present to display His grace and kindness. Spend some time this week asking God if there is a past hurt in your life that He wants to deal with now. Let Him heal you and restore you. Share with your group or accountability partner what God is laying on your heart and pray that you will behave in a way that is pleasing to Christ.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Psalm 34:12-16

Luke 6:27-29, 35-36

Romans 12:14-21

1 Corinthians 4:12

Ephesians 4:2, 32; 5:20

Hebrews 13:1