



GROUP ICE BREAKER

Name a person, dead or alive, that you admire and share with the group why.

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will be a spiritual friend by helping others pay attention to God.
- I will pray for a spiritual friend.
- I will join a team/group in my search for a spiritual friend.
- I will take a relational risk in my friendships.
- I will invest time and energy to take my friendships deeper.

THIS WEEK'S SERMON RECAP

David had made a covenant with Jonathan, that he would show God's kindness to Jonathan's family. Disabled at a young age and living in obscurity after the death of King Saul and his father Jonathan, Mephibosheth is far from the palace and forgotten by now King David. Recalling the covenant he had made, David seeks out any living relative of King Saul in order to honor his word, which he does by restoring what had been lost to Mephibosheth and giving him a place at the King's table. The story is beautifully symbolic of our experience with God's grace. Mephibosheth was disabled in life because of a past, hiding from what haunted him. We've all been him at some point, needing the comfort of God's grace. As Christ-followers, we're all called to be like David. There are three observations of God's grace in this story. First, grace takes the first step. David went looking for Mephibosheth, not the other way around. That's exactly what God has done for us, his grace takes the first step. Second, grace knows where we are. Mephibosheth had been living in obscurity, until he heard a knock at the door. It was unexpected, but grace knew where to find him. God's kindness is reaching out to you today, where you're hiding, inviting you into a new life. Don't let fear keep you missing out on all that God has given you. And thirdly, grace seats us at the family table. David's kindness to Mephibosheth gave him a seat at the family table, he was adopted into his family. That's grace.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. 20 years after Jonathan's death, David recalls their covenant. What are some practical ways to make sure we don't make promises we can't keep or keep the promises we make?
2. Kindness was defined as mercy, compassion, goodness and faithfulness, but also includes actions that are unexpected and undeserved on behalf of someone in need. How does this compare with your current understanding of kindness as seen in society? What are the differences?

FACING GIANTS

TREAT THEM LIKE ROYALTY

Scott Haus
January 31, 2021

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (CONT)

3. David could have easily chosen not to keep his covenant. Why do you think he felt the need to honor to his promise?
4. Read 2 Samuel 9:6-13. How do these verses show us the nature of grace?
5. What was your “Mephibosheth” moment in life that left you in hiding and needing the *comfort of God’s grace*? Have you experienced his grace for it yet? If not, ask the group to pray for you. If so, share with the group about that experience.
6. Machir demonstrated the *care of God’s grace* by providing a safe place for Mephibosheth. What are some ways that you could demonstrate that same attitude of care to those in need around you?
7. Ziba became the *conduit of God’s grace* when he connected David with Mephibosheth. Think of a person in your life that needs to experience the grace of God. What is one thing you could do this week to connect them with him?
8. As Christ-followers, we’re all to be like David, a *carrier of God’s grace*, people who demonstrate and live out the grace of God through our lives. What is one take-away you have from David’s actions in this story?

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

Use these as a guide to take your next step and commit to what you learned this week:

- I will receive the comfort of God’s grace in my life.
- I will extend the care of God’s grace to a friend in need.
- I will become a conduit of God’s grace to my community.
- I will be a carrier of God’s grace to those who don’t expect it but need it.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- 2 Samuel 9:1-13
- 1 Samuel 20:14-15
- Jeremiah 23:24
- Romans 5:8
- Revelation 3:20
- Galatians 4:4-5