

Major Event: David

Lesson 4: Merciful to Mephibosheth

Scriptures: 2 Samuel 9

Central Text: Merciful David: 2 Samuel 9:7 “So David said to him, “Do not fear, for I will surely show you kindness for Jonathan your father’s sake, and will restore to you all the land of Saul your grandfather; and you shall eat bread at my table continually.”

Suggested subjects for teacher to cover on David and Mephibosheth:

- **Honesty:** Long after David’s covenant with Jonathan he chooses to remember that oath and honor it.
- **Kindness:** David seeks a relative of Saul (who hated him) to show kindness to. He’s seeking to show “THE KINDESS OF GOD” according to v 3 which reveals to us his heart of love for the LORD.

Suggested Attributes:

Of God: Love

Of Man: Kindness, Loyalty, Honesty (reflecting Yahweh’s character as His vassal)

Suggested Reading for Parents and Child at Home: 2 Samuel 9

Notes on David’s Mercy to Mephibosheth

- 2 Sam 9:1, David and Jonathan’s covenant of friendship and protection was to extend to their offspring (1 Sam 18:3-4, 20:14-15, 42). David shows loyalty, honesty, and trustworthiness by honoring this covenant.
- V7, That lame Mephibosheth was to eat bread at the king’s table and was not a temporary honor, but it meant that these privileges and provisions would continue throughout Mephibosheth’s life.
- V9-10 In his dealings with Mephibosheth, David exemplified God’s grace. Mephibosheth was wonderfully blessed, not because of something he earned, but because of David’s faithfulness to a covenant promise with Jonathan. Likewise, believers are blessed not because of any good work (Eph.2:8-9) but because of Christ’s work on the cross on our behalf.
- Mephibosheth was regarded as an adopted son, “like one of the king’s sons”—with attendant privileges and blessings, so believers have been adopted as sons and daughters into the family of God (John 1:12).