



REACH UP AND TAKE IT!

Isaiah 41:10 (NIV) *Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.*

Grace is UNMERITED FAVOR or giving something to someone who doesn't deserve it, who hasn't earned it, and can never repay it.

SAUL – First King of Israel

JONATHAN – Son of Saul

DAVID – Killed Goliath, anointed the next King of Israel

MEPHIBOSHETH – Son of Jonathan, grandson of Saul

2 Samuel 9 (NIV) *David asked, "Is there anyone still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan's sake?" Now there was a servant of Saul's household named Ziba. They summoned him to appear before David, and the king said to him, "Are you Ziba?" "At your service," he replied. The king asked, "Is there no one still alive from the house of Saul to whom I can show God's kindness?" Ziba answered the king, "There is still a son of Jonathan; he is lame in both feet." "Where is he?" the king asked. Ziba answered, "He is at the house of Makir son of Ammiel in Lo Debar." So King David had him brought from Lo Debar, from the house of Makir son of Ammiel. When Mephibosheth son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, came to David, he bowed down to pay him honor. David said, "Mephibosheth!" "At your service," he replied. "Don't be afraid," David said to him, "for I will surely show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan. I will restore to you all the land that belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will always eat at my table." Mephibosheth bowed down and said, "What is your servant, that you should notice a dead dog like me?" Then the king summoned Ziba, Saul's steward, and said to him, "I have given your master's grandson everything that belonged to Saul and his family. You and your sons and your servants are to farm the land for him and bring in the crops, so that your master's grandson may be provided for. And Mephibosheth, grandson of your master, will always eat at my table." (Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.) Then Ziba said to the king, "Your servant will do whatever my lord the king commands his servant to do." So Mephibosheth ate at David's table like one of the king's sons. Mephibosheth had a young son named Mika, and all the members of Ziba's household were servants of Mephibosheth. And Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, because he always ate at the king's table; he was lame in both feet.*

1 Samuel 24:20-22 (NIV) *I know that you will surely be king and that the kingdom of Israel will be established in your hands. Now swear to me by the LORD that you will not kill off my descendants or wipe out my name from my father's family." So David gave his oath to Saul.*

2 Samuel 4:4 (NIV) *Jonathan son of Saul had a son who was lame in both feet. He was five years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel. His nurse picked him up and fled, but as she hurried to leave, he fell and became disabled. His name was Mephibosheth.)*

John 10:3 (NIV) *The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.*

Additional Notes:

scriptures that relate

Monday: Matthew 14:27	Wednesday: John 14:2b-3	Friday: Hebrews 4:16
Tuesday: 2 Corinthians 1:3-5	Thursday: 2 Corinthians 12:8-9	Saturday: 1 Peter 5:10

small groups—talk it over

1. What does grace mean to you?
2. What does grace look like in your life? Are you struggling to give grace or are you struggling to receive grace?
3. David restored the land of Saul to Mephibosheth. This could have been enough kindness, but he offered Mephibosheth a place at his table like a royal family member. How do you feel knowing God is offering the same to you?
4. What are some ways that you can offer grace (unmerited favor) to someone in your life?
5. If a rich and loving relative gave you an amazingly extravagant gift, and you could never offer anything even remotely like this gift in return, how do you think you would respond? How are you responding to God's gift?

pastor david's prayer requests

Monday: As the workweek begins, thank God for walking with you this week.

Tuesday: Pray for the homeless that God gives us wisdom to help them.

Wednesday: Pray for the couples whose relationships are hanging on by a thread.

Thursday: Pray for the men and women who are attending Bible studies today.

Friday: Pray for your pastors as we take this day for rest and rejuvenation.

Saturday: Thank you Lord for Your grace, mercy and forgiveness. May we give as You have given.