



The Table

2 Samuel 9:1 (NIV) David asked, "Is there anyone still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan's sake?"

2 Samuel 9:2-13 (NIV) ² 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. ³ 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." ⁴ "Where is he?" the king asked. Ziba answered, "He is at the house of Makir son of Ammiel in Lo Debar." ⁵ So King David had him brought from Lo Debar, from the house of Makir son of Ammiel. ⁶ 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. ⁷ "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." ⁸ Mephibosheth bowed down and said, "What is your servant, that you should notice a dead dog like me?" ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ 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.) ¹¹ 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. ¹² Mephibosheth had a young son named Mika, and all the members of Ziba's household were servants of Mephibosheth. ¹³ And Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, because he always ate at the king's table; he was lame in both feet.

Mephibosheth's life circumstances speak to us of the heart of Christmas...

- 1) His life has not gone ACCORDING TO PLAN.
- 2) People he TRUSTED let him down.

- 3) He was in DANGER, but had nowhere to run.
- 4) There was a GREAT KING who wanted to show him KINDNESS.
- 5) He was given a SEAT at the ROYAL TABLE.

God wants to bless you for Jesus' sake. Come to the table!

Additional Notes...

scriptures that relate

Monday: Luke 1:26-35	Wednesday: Luke 2:6-20	Friday: Matthew 2:1-12
Tuesday: Luke 21-7	Thursday: Matthew 1: 18-23	Saturday: Isaiah 9:26-7

small groups—talk it over

1. Share some special moments you have had around the table.
2. Saul was insanely jealous of David. How do we not let jealousy destroy us on the inside?
3. How do you deal with life when it does not go according to plan?
4. How do you bounce back from people letting you down?
5. What is significant about Mephibosheth being allowed to eat at the royal table?

pastor lesley's prayer requests

- Monday:** Pray for families as they spend time together.
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- Tuesday:** Pray that everyone has a safe and Merry Christmas.
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- Wednesday:** Pray for our Children's Ministry volunteers as they have a few weeks of reprieve.
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- Thursday:** Pray for the Children's Ministry Leadership Team as they seek God's vision.
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- Friday:** Pray for the children who feel alone or unloved this Christmas Season.
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- Saturday:** Pray for a sense of family in the Children's Ministry department.
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