



I have loved you, my people, with an everlasting love. With unfailing kindness I have drawn you to myself. Jer. 31:3

## *Bible Study:*



2 Samuel 9, 16:1-4, 19:24-30. Consider God's grace displayed toward Saul's household, despite Saul's rebellion against God.

## *The gospel in the story:*



The heart of the gospel is a love story between God and His Church, and the story of David's kindness to Mephibosheth paints a good picture of that. David showing kindness to the family of Saul, the man who despised him, his archenemy (Saul), foreshadowed God's dealing in grace with sinners:

"The name of the one whom David befriended, the place he had hitherto occupied, the condition he was then in, the wondrous portion he received, all typified the case of those upon whom God bestows saving mercy. The picture here presented is perfect in its accuracy in every detail, and the more closely it be examined, the more clearly will its evangelical character appear. O that our hearts may be melted by its exquisite light and shade." A.W. Pink

## *Application*

### *Head:* **What did we learn?**

- Q: Who is Mephibosheth? A: Saul's grandson / Jonathan's son.  
Q: Why did David seek out Mephibosheth? A: To show kindness to him for Jonathan's sake.  
Q: How did David show kindness to Mephibosheth? A: Returning property to him, and allowing him to eat at the king's table.  
Q: How did Mephibosheth demonstrate Grace?  
A: He did not seek revenge on Ziba.  
Q: How did Mephibosheth show his devotion to David?  
A: Didn't want his property back after Ziba stole it.

### *Heart :* **Memory verse**

**I have loved you, my people, with an everlasting love. With unfailing kindness I have drawn you to myself. Jer. 31:3**

### *Hands:* **How does this affect the way I live?**

David and Jonathan had a friendship that was based on unselfish love. That love was expressed as kindness to Mephibosheth, and Mephibosheth's appreciation for that was expressed as thankfulness. Followers of Jesus have experienced love like that, but on an even deeper level through Jesus. Therefore our lives should reflect an attitude of profound thankfulness.

Challenge: List the ways God's Grace has affected your life.

### *Home:* **How does this affect my household?**

David treated Mephibosheth as his own family. God treats us as His own family, and has invited us to dine at His table.

Challenge: List ways your household can be a place of mercy and grace to others

### *Heaven:* **How does this help us share our faith?**

We look for ways daily to express our thankfulness for the kindness extended to us, by being kind and generous to our friends, neighbors and co-workers, even when they don't deserve it!