

## SERMON NOTES

**NOVEMBER 15, 2020**

*Start by praying and asking for God's help as you seek to grow as authentic followers of Jesus.*

### REVIEW

1. If you are in a group, offer a short summary of 2 Samuel 9:1-13 to describe David's seeking someone to whom he can show "the kindness of God" (*hesed*) and Mephibosheth's homecoming to sit at King David's table. If you are studying on your own, you may want to review these verses.

### LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

2. Read 2 Samuel 15:13-14 and 2 Samuel 16:1-4. Quickly summarize what transpires in these verses.
3. Read 2 Samuel 19:24-30. Make 5-7 observations. What happens? Who seems surprising?
4. What do we learn about Ziba in this situation? How do you make sense of this given what Ziba said in 2 Samuel 16:1-4?
5. What do we learn about Mephibosheth in these verses? Though he is, in many ways, helpless, where do you see strength, resolve, and freedom in his actions?
6. Mephibosheth trusts King David in his *present circumstances* because of King David's gracious actions *in the past*. How is this approach helpful to us as we seek to walk with King Jesus?

### LIVING IT OUT

7. In 2 Samuel, Ziba abandons and betrays Mephibosheth. What helps you to process similar hurts and work through painful circumstances?
8. Jesus said, "In this world, you will have trouble." Is it difficult for you to accept the real presence of sin and suffering in your life? Does this ever disorient you or lead you to doubt? Why or why not?
9. How does active dependence upon God's grace form resiliency in us? How would your life be different if you experienced faith that led to greater resilience?
10. Mephibosheth is a wonderful example of a life that is ordered by his relationship with his king:
  - he shows **loyalty** to his king  
"He had neither taken care of his feet nor trimmed his beard nor washed his clothes"
  - he shows **honor** to his king  
"my lord the king is like the angel of God"
  - he shows **faith** in his king  
"do what seems good to you"
  - he shows **surrender** to his king  
"What further right have I, then, to cry to the king?"
  - he shows **freedom** because of his king  
"Oh, let him take it all"he seeks the **glory** of his king  
"since my lord the king has come safely home"

How should our relationship with King Jesus reflect some of these same characteristics? Which of these is most impactful to you personally? Which one do you need to do a better job of cultivating?