



Life of

DAVID

The Making of a King

Ruling with Kindness

2 Samuel 9

Lesson 15

Background Information

David ruled over all of Israel and walked in wisdom, integrity, and kindness. He began to recover lost territory and gain new territory. *He administered judgment and justice to all of his people.* We should be encouraged to rule our hearts following his example.

The Lord exalted David in the eyes of all of his people and made his name famous, just as He had promised. The Lord preserved David wherever he went. As David set up his administration, he remembered his promise to be kind to the house of Saul for the sake of his beloved Jonathan. It was during this act of kindness toward Jonathan's son, Saul's grandson, that David gives us great insight in to what it means to rule with kindness. He exemplifies God's grace as he reaches out to and cares for Mephibosheth. With both his attitude and his actions he proves that he is a man after God's own heart.

Treasures of the Heart

And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you. Ephesians 4:32



What does it say?

The first step is getting the lay of the land. **Carefully observe the text** looking to see where you might dig to find hidden treasure. **Mark your text** looking for repeated words, contrasts or similarities. Look for answers to, Who? What? When? Where? Why or How?

Read 2 Samuel 8 for context

2 Samuel 9:1-8

1 Now David said, "Is there still anyone who is left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan's sake?"

2 And there was a servant of the house of Saul whose name was Ziba. So when they had called him to David, the king said to him, "Are you Ziba?" He said, "At your service!"

3 Then the king said, "Is there not still someone of the house of Saul, to whom I may show the kindness of God?" And Ziba said to the king, "There is still a son of Jonathan who is lame in his feet."

4 So the king said to him, "Where is he?" And Ziba said to the king, "Indeed he is in the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, in Lo Debar."

5 Then King David sent and brought him out of the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, from Lo Debar.

6 Now when Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, had come to David, he fell on his face and prostrated himself. Then David said, "Mephibosheth?" And he answered, "Here is your servant!"

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."

8 Then he bowed himself, and said, "What is your servant, that you should look upon such a dead dog as I?"

2 Samuel 9:9-13

9 And the king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said to him, "I have given to your master's son all that belonged to Saul and to all his house.

10 You therefore, and your sons and your servants, shall work the land for him, and you shall bring in the harvest, that your master's son may have food to eat. But Mephibosheth your master's son shall eat bread at my table always." Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

11 Then Ziba said to the king, "According to all that my lord the king has commanded his servant, so will your servant do." "As for Mephibosheth," said the king, "he shall eat at my table like one of the king's sons."

12 Mephibosheth had a young son whose name was Micha. And all who dwelt in the house of Ziba were servants of Mephibosheth.

13 So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem, for he ate continually at the king's table. And he was lame in both his feet.



A series of approximately 18 horizontal lines provided for writing, starting from the line immediately below the quill illustration and extending to the bottom of the page.



What does it mean?

What lesson can I draw from my observations? **Ask yourself, “What was the intended meaning of the original author?”** Is there a command to obey, or a warning to heed? An example to follow or avoid? **State each lesson in a simple sentence that you could share with someone else.** (aim for 10 words or less).

2 Samuel 9:1-8 _____

2 Samuel 9:9-13 _____



How can I apply it?

Ask yourself, “What course of action do I need to take to apply each lesson?” How should it change me? What does it challenge me to do? Does it point out error in my attitude or actions? (aim for 10 words or less)

2 Samuel 9:1-8 _____

2 Samuel 9:9-13 _____

Challenge: Use cross-references to find correlating scripture that backs up a main point of the chapter. Summarize your findings in your own words.



Understanding the Heart . . .

See if you can discover the **heart attitude** of those in the story. What emotions are they dealing with? What is God teaching them? How do they respond? How should they respond?

The Heart of David:

The Heart of the people:

The Heart of God:

What words or phrases are repeated? Repeated words help us discover the main point.



Getting The Point

See if you can boil down the meaning of **each section** into one or two words. This helps you fully understand what the author is trying to convey. (It's fun to alliterate if you want to try) Did you catch the vision?

2 Samuel 9:1-8 _____

2 Samuel 9:9-13 _____

Title State the main **point** of the passage in the form of a title.

Flex Your Muscles Can you discover an N.T. example of this O.T. truth?

Radiating His Truth . . .

The greatest thing that a man can do for his Heavenly Father
is to be kind to some of His other children.

— Henry Drummond

