

Discovering God's Heart & Your New Identity

David - Man after God's Own Heart

Acts 13:22

After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning him: 'I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.'

- Totally Loved and Honored God - Demonstrated by obedience
- Example of showing God's Heart in how he treated Sauls' family

David and Mephibosheth

Mephibosheth Injured and Made Lame

2 Samuel 4:4

(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.)

- This Injury Damaged More Than the Physical

David Looking to Show Kindness to Saul's Family

2 Samuel 9:1-3

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."

- David's Heart on Display
- Showing kindness to the family that had caused him so much trouble

David Brings Him Into His Household

2 Samuel 9:6-7, 11b

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."... vs 11b So Mephibosheth ate at David's table like one of the king's sons.

Mephibosheth Carries the Scars of Life

2 Samuel 9:8, 13

Vs 8 Mephibosheth bowed down and said, "What is your servant, that you should notice a dead dog like me?"

Vs 13 And Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, because he always ate at the king's table; he was lame in both feet.

- Never let go of the bitterness against David
- Remained behind when David fled from Absalom
- David still brought him back into his care

God Shows us His Heart Through Christ

Ephesians 2 Message

Those Damaged by Sin Now Embraced by God

Vss. 1-6

It wasn't so long ago that you were mired in that old stagnant life of sin. You let the world, which doesn't know the first thing about living, tell you how to live. You filled your lungs with polluted unbelief, and then exhaled disobedience. We all did it, all of us doing what we felt like doing, when we felt like doing it, all of us in the same boat. It's a wonder God didn't lose his temper and do away with the whole lot of us. Instead, immense in mercy and with an incredible love, he embraced us. He took our sin-dead lives and made us alive in Christ. He did all this on his own, with no help from us! Then he picked us up and set us down in highest heaven in company with Jesus, our Messiah.

Grace and Kindness upon us in Christ Jesus

Vss 7-10

Now God has us where he wants us, with all the time in this world and the next to shower grace and kindness upon us in Christ Jesus. Saving is all his idea, and all his work. All we do is trust him enough to let him do it. It's God's gift from start to finish! We don't play the major role. If we did, we'd probably go around bragging that we'd done the whole thing! No, we neither make nor save ourselves. God does both the making and saving. He creates each of us by Christ Jesus to join him in the work he does, the good work he has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing.

Embrace Your New Identity

Vss 19-22

That's plain enough, isn't it? You're no longer wandering exiles. This kingdom of faith is now your home country. You're no longer strangers or outsiders. You *belong* here, with as much right to the name Christian as anyone. God is building a home. He's using us all—irrespective of how we got here—in what he is building. He used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now he's using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together. We see it taking shape day after day—a holy temple built by God, all of us built into it, a temple in which God is quite at home.

Video - Your Special <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=15QuHygLwFU>
Start at 4:45

We Can Help to Get You Connected

- Rooted - 10 weeks of community Next Session May 9th
- Small Groups - Oikos Groups (intentional outward focus) Starting Week Of April 12
- Missional Pathway
 - Personal Calling
 - Awaken June 25-26
 - Activate July 10
 - Corporate (church) Calling
 - Assess September 11
 - Advance October 9