

# ✓ The Loving Kindness of God

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### I. What is God Like?

#### 1. God reveals Himself Personally to Moses

- [Exo 34:4](#) So he cut two tablets of stone like the first ones. Then Moses rose early in the morning and went up Mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him; and he took in his hand the two tablets of stone.
- [Exo 34:5](#) Now the LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD.
- [Exo 34:6](#) And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and **abounding in goodness and truth**,
- [Exo 34:7](#) keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation."
- [Exo 34:8](#) So Moses made haste and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshiped.

#### 2. God Declares Who He is to Moses

- His Greatness
- His Kindness
- His Justice

#### 3. Loving Kindness

- "Abounding in goodness"
- Heb. Chesed ...lovingkindness, goodness, faithfulness, mercy
- **It is difficult word to translate**
- *It means loyal, covenant love—a love that is steadfast, merciful, faithful, generous, and committed even when the other person fails. It is God's active, pursuing, promise-keeping love.*
- **It is love expressed through action, commitment and sacrifice**
  - Affection.....a deep love and attraction for a person
  - Loyalty.....commitment that does not break even if the person fails
  - Mercy.....compassion to someone in need
  - Generosity.....acting for someone's good at a personal cost
  - Faithfulness...keeping promises even when the other person has failed

### II. The Loving Kindness of King David

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

[2Sa 9:2](#) 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.

[2Sa 9:3](#) 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.**"

[2Sa 9:4](#) "Where is he?" the king asked. Ziba answered, "He is at the **house of Makir son of Ammiel in Lo Debar.**"

[2Sa 9:5](#) So King David had him brought from Lo Debar, from the house of Makir son of Ammiel.

[2Sa 9:6](#) 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.

[2Sa 9:7](#) "**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.**"

[2Sa 9:8](#) Mephibosheth bowed down and said, "What is your servant, that you should notice a dead dog like me?"

[2Sa 9:9](#) 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.

[2Sa 9:10](#) 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.)

[2Sa 9:11](#) 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.

2Sa 9:12 Mephibosheth had a young son named Mika, and all the members of Ziba's household were servants of Mephibosheth.

2Sa 9:13 And Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, because he always ate at the king's table; he was lame in both feet.

- **Revenge sits in some cultures for a thousand years**
  - When the opportunity to get revenge they take it
  - Common for new kings to destroy potential adversaries from previous king
  
- 2. **David demonstrated his heart....show kindness vs 2, 3**
  - 2Sa 9:1 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?"
    - The House of Saul are the family of the Fallen King and his followers
    - Saul had been appointed the first King of Israel King but rebelled and failed His Calling
    - He fell in battle and the enemy overran the country
    - **Saul is a prophetic picture of the fall of Adam the first King.**
  
- 3. **Mephibosheth was a Descendent of King Saul, his grandson**
  - Mephibosheth was crippled in both feet
  - He had done no wrong but his life was destroyed by the fall of King Saul
  - He was crippled in both feet, deformed by an accident of being dropped
  - Someone else's carelessness led to his damage
  - **Lived in Lodebar....no pasture, no hope or future**
  - Moved into the house of Makir, son of Ammiel
    - **Lived in deep shame at his condition**
    - **Lived in fear of being treated harshly**
  - **Mephibosheth is a prophetic picture of Fallen man impacted by sin**
  
- **People Hide when Damaged**
  - Often people who are crippled or damaged hide, look for refuge
  - Adam and Eve **hid from the presence of God** behind fig leaves and among trees (Gen.3:8)
    - "Presence"...The Face of God
  - Mephibosheth hid in Lodebar
  
- **What has crippled or damaged you?**
  - What has caused you to isolate and live in shame
  - Many people believe in a God, struggle to understand His love and fear what will happen
  - People believe the lie because others have misrepresented God to them
  
- 4. **David acted in love because of a Covenant with Jonathan**
  - David remembered his covenant
  - People don't live out of covenant...they live out of convenience..transactional
  - **David showed a proactive effort to search Him out to show kindness**
  - Desired to demonstrate kindness with no hidden or personal agenda
  - Peoples mentality of God and Christians is of someone who takes
  - **King David is a prophetic picture of Jesus, the King yet to come**
  
- 5. **How was David a Generous Giver?**
  - **David Restored the Lost inheritance**
    - All the wealth of his father had been taken
  - **David Restored the Lost Identity**
    - Restore seat at the Royal table as a son , not a slave or beggar
    - To eat at the Kings Table was a Jewish saying meaning to enjoy the Kings provision
    - To eat at the table rather than serve the table was a place of honour
    - Restore as a Son
    - 2Sa 9:11 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.**
    - **At the King's Table his feet were concealed, not seen**
      - God does not expose our failures, he covers them by grace
      - Table...place of honour and authority and favoured relationship with the King
  - **David Demonstrated Undeserved Loving Kindness**

### III. **Jesus came to Reveal the Lovingkindness of God and Restore Us**

1. Luk 19:10 for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."
  - All men are crippled by sin and unable to walk as God intended
  - All men are damaged and impacted by sin

- God seeks us out to restore us

## 2. Jesus was the "Son of David" the True King (Mk.10:48)

- **He came to Restore Our Identity**
  - [Jhn 1:12](#) *But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:*
- **He Came to Restore our Inheritance**
  - [Eph 1:13](#) *In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,*  
[Eph 1:14](#) *who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.*
- **He Came to Restore our Seat at His Table**
  - [Rev 3:20](#) *Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, **I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.***

## 3. True love extend kindness to people in spite of their situation

- [Jhn 3:16](#) *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*
  - It costs to restore people
  - Grace and love covers a multitude of failures...doesn't ignore ..covers until can restore
- **Not Defined by our Past and Failures**
  - At Kings table in spite of condition
  - God covers our brokenness with His grace but seeks to heal and transform us

## 4. God commands us to insist people come into His Banquet

- [Luk 14:22](#) *And the servant said, 'Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.'*  
[Luk 14:23](#) *Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.'*
- Stretch out and bring in people, include them, care for them,
- Believers are messengers to invite people in

### Altar Call

- **Salvation**
  - People crippled and hiding
  - People hiding in Lodebar
  - Extends invitation to all mankind
  - Everyone can have a place at the Kings Table
- **Ministry**
  - Crippled in life
  - Fear
  - Anxiety
  - Shame

