

July 26, 2026

Title: Uncommon Favor

9:1 David asked, "Is there anyone remaining from the family of Saul I can show kindness to for Jonathan's sake?" **2 Samuel 9:1 CSB**

Intro:

- Have you ever had unconditional favor before?
- I mean the kind of favor that you can say only God did this
- Sometimes it wasn't even because of us but because of where we come from
- There is a man named Jonathan
- Jonathan was David's friend
- Not only was Jonathan David's friend
- He was also King Saul's son
- Now if you have ever read the Bible
- You might know the name David, Saul, maybe even Jonathan
- King Saul had tried to do everything in his power to kill David
- Right after God removed Saul as King
- The prophet Samuel anointed David
- Although David didn't overthrow Saul
- He was being persecuted daily
- Until the death of Saul
- During David's time in the king's army
- He was able to become friends with Jonathan
- Jonathan was loyal
- He loved David
- He even
- Sacrificed even his opportunity to become King
- So, David makes a covenant with Jonathan

4 Then Jonathan removed the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his military tunic, his sword, his bow, and his belt. **1 Samuel 18:4 CSB**

- They were loyal to each other until death
- Once David became King
- He starts by
- Bringing unity to Israel
- Conquering the Philistines and the Moabites
- Winning war after wars

- David remembers his friend Jonathan

9:1 David asked, "Is there anyone remaining from the family of Saul I can show kindness to for Jonathan's sake?" **2 Samuel 9:1 CSB**

- Kindness and mercy
- Was not common in the ancient Near Eastern world
- It was common for the new king
- To find the remaining family of the previous king
- And kill them
- The last thing a king would want
- Is for people to rebel
- Because there was still a royal sibling alive
- But David
- asked, "Is there anyone remaining
- David wanted to show favor and mercy
- For the sake of Jonathan
- There are certain people in our lives
- That we know don't deserve our kindness
- But because of Jesus
- We show compassion
- Because of what God has done in our lives,
- We demonstrate favor
- But you and I know
- This world isn't fair
- We always encounter people
- Who want to take advantage of our kindness
- Take advantage of what we have
- And claim to others that it's theirs

1) Don't be a Ziba

² There was a servant of Saul's family named Ziba. They summoned him to David, and the king said to him, "Are you Ziba?"

"I am your servant," he replied.

³ So the king asked, "Is there anyone left of Saul's family that I can show the kindness of God to?"

Ziba said to the king, "There is still Jonathan's son who was injured in both feet."

⁴ The king asked him, "Where is he?"

Ziba answered the king, "You'll find him in Lo-debar at the house of Machir son of Ammiel." **2 Samuel 9:2-4 CSB**

- Jonathan's son was injured in both feet
- Since he was unable to walk
- He needed someone to help him
- Now Ziba
- Ziba oversaw Saul's land
- What Ziba starts to do
- He starts to overtake the land that belonged to Jonathan's son
- Ziba says he is unable to walk
- Why do you need him
- A crippled man
- In the ancient Near Eastern world
- Couldn't really serve the king
- If the king were to call you in
- It was for a certain task
- Become a political leader for him
- Become a soldier in the king's army
- Ziba had 15 sons
- 20 servants
- He needed the land to cultivate
- To produce for his household
- Since Jonathan's son couldn't do anything about it
- He accepted his new normal
- I believe today
- Many people have been cheated out of what is theirs
- They have had to accept the new normal
- I am here to tell you today that there is one who fights for you
- There is a God who knows you
- He knows your struggle
- He knows your pain
- He knows exactly what you are feeling
- So, this is what the Lord does
- He reminds David of his covenant with Jonathan
- The king calls Jonathan's son

2) The King is Calling

⁵ So King David had him brought from the house of Machir son of Ammiel in Lo-debar.

⁶ Mephibosheth son of Jonathan son of Saul came to David, fell facedown, and paid homage. David said, "Mephibosheth!"

"I am your servant," he replied. **2 Samuel 9:5-6 CSB**

- Mephibosheth fell face down
- He thought, "This is it."
- I have lost my land to Ziba
- Now the king has called me
- All that could be crossing Mephibosheth's mind is I'm done
- Now I don't know about you
- But I've had some moments in my life
- When I have said I'm done
- Done with life
- Done with ministry
- Done with marriage
- Done with my business
- Then suddenly
- When I am at the point of complete distress
- The king calls me
- Mephibosheth should have been dead
- He shouldn't even be around the king
- But
- When the king calls you home
- He doesn't call you because he wants to destroy you
- He calls you to restore you
- Restore all that has been lost or stolen from you
- The king is calling

3) Uncommon favor

⁷ "Don't be afraid," David said to him, "since I intend to show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan. I will restore to you all your grandfather Saul's fields, and you will always eat meals at my table."

⁸ Mephibosheth paid homage and said, "What is your servant that you take an interest in a dead dog like me?"

⁹ Then the king summoned Saul's attendant Ziba and said to him, "I have given to your master's grandson all that belonged to Saul and his family. ¹⁰ You, your sons, and your servants are to work the ground for him, and you are to bring in the crops so your master's grandson will have food to eat. But Mephibosheth, your master's grandson, is always to eat at my table." Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

¹¹ Ziba said to the king, "Your servant will do all my lord the king commands."

So Mephibosheth ate at David's^a table just like one of the king's sons. ¹² Mephibosheth had a young son whose name was Mica. All those living in Ziba's house were Mephibosheth's servants. ¹³ However, Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem because he always ate at the king's table. His feet had been injured. **2 Samuel 9: 7-13 CSB**

- Now this is what King David did
- He restored all that was King Saul's
- All that land that was taken from him
- Now not only did he restore all his fortunes
- He orders Ziba to now
- Work for Mephibosheth
- The scripture says
- You
- Your sons
- And your servants
- Will serve him
- Let me tell you today
- When the enemy comes at you
- When you face persecution
- When all the odds are against you
- When things aren't going in your favor
- There is a King
- Who sees all
- And this is the beauty
- He remembers His Son's sacrifice
- Jesus
- He remembers what he did on the cross for you and me
- Not only did Mephibosheth get his land restored with servants
- He is also now seated at the king's table
- Now
- Not anyone is invited to the king's table
- Not everyone is allowed to be in that room

CONCLUSION:

¹³ However, Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem because he always ate at the king's table. His feet had been injured. **2 Samuel 9:13 CSB**

- He ate at the king's table alongside the king's sons and wives
- Only those the king calls
- Can have a seat at the table of the Lord
- One day you and I will be called before the King
- King Jesus
- We will have to report to him
- The difference between what happens after is this
- David had a covenant with Jonathan
- God has a covenant with Jesus
- It is called redemption
- Only those who accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior
- Will be invited to the Kings Table
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