

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: Slings & Crowns - Lessons in Courage, Calling & Character from the Life of David

Message 4: Mephibosheth - A Great Name; An Even Greater Story

Text: [2 Samuel 4:4](#); [2 Samuel 9:1-13](#).

Date: November 23, 2025 **Speaker:** Shawn Vandop



Connect (25min)

1. *Beauty & Bombs*

- Watch [Beauty and Bombs / John Lennox's Beautiful Answer to Alex O'Connor on the Problem of Evil](#).
[5min YouTube clip]
- In this life we experience a mixed picture, a mix of beautiful things and horrible things ...
>> Consider and share a *Beauty* and a *Bomb* that you've experienced in your life recently.

2. TAKE 5

Read [John 16:33](#). Take 5 minutes to respond to Jesus and pray for one another.

Message Discussion (45min)

1. *When You've Been Dropped*. Read [2 Samuel 4:4](#) and Discuss:

- When have you experienced being "dropped" — hurt, overlooked, or disappointed by someone or something?
- How did that experience shape your view of God or yourself?
- Why do you think God allows "drops" to happen — and what can He do in our lives through them?

2. *Living in Lo-Debar*. Read [2 Samuel 9:1-4](#) and Discuss:

- Lo-Debar means "no word, no pasture, no bread." What are some modern-day "Lo-Debars" people hide in?
- What lies does shame whisper that keep us stuck there?
- How can we bring God's Word and grace into the "no word" places of our lives or others' lives?

3. *The Pursuing King*. Read [2 Samuel 9:5-7](#) and Discuss:

- What does David's pursuit of Mephibosheth reveal about God's heart toward us?
 - Why is it hard to believe that God is actually *looking for us* when we've failed?
 - How have you experienced God's pursuit in your own story?
- Reflect: [Luke 19:10](#) — "For the Son of Man (Jesus) came to seek and to save the lost."

4. *Grace That Covers Shame*. Read [2 Samuel 9:11](#) and Discuss:

- What does the image of sitting at the King's table mean to you?
- How does grace *cover* us the way the table covered Mephibosheth's brokenness?
- What would change in your life if you truly believed you had a permanent seat there?

5. You Are Mephibosheth. Read [Ephesians 2:4–7](#) and Discuss:

- How does this passage connect to the story of Mephibosheth?
- Why is it so hard for us to live like people who've been "seated with the King"?
- What would it look like to walk (or limp!) in that identity this week?

6. Redefining Worth. Read [2 Samuel 9:8](#) and Discuss:

- What "dead dog" thoughts or labels have you believed about yourself?
- How does God's invitation rewrite your name and identity?
- How can we help others see their worth in God's eyes rather than their wounds?

7. Extending the Table. Read [Luke 14:12–14](#) and Discuss:

- Who might God be asking you to "pull up a chair" for — someone who doesn't deserve it, but needs it?
- What could it look like for your Life Group to be a "King's Table" community for broken people?

8. Living with a Limp, but Full of Grace. Read [2 Corinthians 12:9–10](#) and Discuss:

- How can our "limps" become testimonies of God's grace instead of sources of shame?
- What would it look like to stop hiding your limp and let it point to His strength?

Prayer (20min)

***Break into group of 3-4 or Men & Women, to enhance your sharing and prayer time.**

- **Take 2:** In preparation for sharing and prayer, set a timer for 2min of quiet reflection on our discussion.
Ask the Lord to reveal any needs or focus for sharing and prayer.
- **How can the group pray for you to live like someone who's been carried by grace?**
Share your specific opportunity, challenge or need and pray for one another.
- **In response to our message and discussion, who is one other person in your life that we can pray for today?**
Share their specific challenge or need and pray for them together.

FYI

- >> **Confirm the details for your next Life Group meeting.**
- >> **Share any key announcements.**
- >> **Plan a time to take a photo of your Life Group. Submit your group photo to Pastor Eryn to enter the prize draw.**
- >> **Plan your Life Group Christmas Party/Social..**