

## ***Making Christ Known to Your Relatives***

2 Samuel 9:1-9

### **Introduction:**

*“The highest word for love in the New Testament, agape, means to choose to do what is best for the other person. This kind of love is primarily an act of the will; it is love that chooses to sacrifice itself for others. This defines God’s love for us: ‘an unconditional commitment to an imperfect person.’ God does not merely have affection for us; He wills to achieve our good for His glory.”*

**- David Wiersbe**

***And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them.***

**Luke 15:2**

***. . . But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. Luke 15:20***

### **I. The search for a relative, in the onset of the Savior’s love.**

A. The decision to search for the one to show His love.

***. . . is there yet any that is left of the house of Saul, 2 Samuel 9:1***

*“We see in David’s dealings with Mephibosheth a picture of God’s kindness to lost sinners.*

**- Warren Wiersbe**

B. The determination to search out the one to show His love.

***. . . that I may shew the kindness of God unto him? 2 Samuel 9:3***

***. . . the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, 1 Samuel 13:14***

### **II. The suffering relative, the object of the Savior’s love.**

A. The calamity that had left the sinner incapacitated.

***And Jonathan, Saul’s son, had a son that was lame of his feet. He was five years old when the tidings came of Saul and Jonathan out of Jezreel, and his nurse took him up, and fled: and it came to pass, as she made haste to flee, that he fell, and became lame. And his name was Mephibosheth. 2 Samuel 4:4***

*“Mephibosheth was only five years old when Jonathan, his father and Saul, his grandfather, both fell in the same battle on Mount Gilboa, and with their death their family fell from the throne. In the terror of that day, the nurse caught up Mephibosheth and fled. But in her haste, she let the little prince fall, and thus he was lame in both feet for the rest of his life.”*

**- Herbert Lockyer**

B. The circumstance that the sinner was incarcerated in.

***And Ziba said unto the king, Jonathan hath yet a son, which is lame on his feet. 2 Samuel 9:3***

***Behold, he is in the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, in Lo-debar. 2 Samuel 9:4***

*“The word Lo-debar in the Hebrew language means “no pasture”.*

Listen to the emotional injury in the verse: . . . ***and he bowed himself, and said, What is thy servant, that thou shouldst look upon such a dead dog as I am. 2 Samuel 9:8***

**III. The suffering was redeemed as the objective of the Savior’s love.**

A. His objective is to bring us out of our circumstances?

***Then king David sent, and fetched him out of the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, from Lo-debar. (V. 6) Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, was come unto David, he fell on his face, and did reverence. And David said, Mephibosheth. And he answered, Behold thy servant. 2 Samuel 9:5-6***

B. His objective is to bring us into His charity.

***And David said unto him, Fear not: for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually. 2 Samuel 9:7***

***He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: Psalms 23:2***

***. . . As for Mephibosheth, said the king, he shall eat at my table, as one of the king's sons. 2 Samuel 9:11***