

Operation Unity #2b

9-14-22

Love That Is Hospitable (OT)

I. Slide1 Announce:

A. Slide2 Baby DEDICATION - Let's welcome up *the Jameson family*. This is **Daniel** and **Brittany**. They are dedicating **Tobias** (older) and **Tucker** (baby).

II. Slide3 Intro: Love That Is Hospitable (OT)

A. As we continue to discuss **Hospitality** this week our key character is **King David**.

1. Do you take time to **reflect** like **David**? Look at 7:1, **God**. 9:1 *fellow man*.

B. Outline: *Hospitality to a Rival. Hospitality to a Traitor. Hospitality because of a Covenant.*

C. I believe 2 Sam.9 is the *High Point* in David's life. **His finest hour!**

1. Here we get to witness the greatest illustration of **grace** in the whole OT!

III. Slide4 HOSPITALITY TO A RIVAL (2 Sam.9) possible rival

A. Slide5 READ 2 Sam.9:1-8

B. Slide6 Did you know the word **rival** was originally used in the sense, '*person using the same stream as another*' (from lt. *rivus* stream).

1. The former kings family/men in antiquity were **killed off** to prevent rival claims to Royalty.

C. (1) **Kindness** - *Hesed* = usually translated as **grace**.

1. **Grace** is **unmerited** favor; **or** it's extending favor to someone who **doesn't** deserve it, who hasn't earned it, **&** can never repay it.

2. **Grace** is positive & unconditional acceptance *in spite of the other person*.

3. **Grace** is a demonstration of love that is undeserved, unearned & unrepayable. [*Grace is one-sided*]

D. (3) This *sad infirmity* dated back to kindergarten (4:4) *Jonathan, the son of Saul, had a son who was crippled in his feet. He was five years old when the news about*

Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel (killed in combat), and his nurse took him up and fled, and as she fled in her haste, he fell and became lame. And his name was Mephibosheth.

- E. (6) Picture this permanently disabled man, crippled in both legs, throwing himself down on his face before the king.
1. Expecting a sword to strike his neck ... only to hear the words in vs.7.
- F. Slide7 READ 2 Sam.9:1-8
- G. Now this was just the *first time* David showed him *Hospitality* ...

IV. Slide8a **HOSPITALITY TO A TRAITOR** (2 Sam.19:24-30) *supposed traitor*

A. Backstory 1st: (2 Sam.16:1-4)

1. David fleeing from Absalom. Ziba meets. Brings David 2 donkeys, 200 bread, raisins, fruit, wine. David asks, where is Mephibosheth? Ziba lies & says, *Behold, he remains in Jerusalem, for he said, today the house of Israel will give me back the kingdom of my father.*

B. Slide8b 2nd Time Hospitality Shown by David (2 Sam.19:24-30)

1. After Absalom died David returns to Jerusalem.
2. Mephibosheth comes out to meet David and shows up completely disheveled/unkempt. *Because from the day the king departed until the day he came back in safety* he would not care for himself, his hair, his nails, his clothes.
3. David asks 1 question, *why did you not go with me, Mephibosheth?* He explained how Ziba deceived him, by going out to saddle the donkeys and took off without him. David said, *why speak anymore of your affairs? You and Ziba divide the land.* And the Mephibosheth said to the king, *let him take it all since my lord the king has come safely home.* (take the world, just give me Jesus).

V. Slide9a **HOSPITALITY BECAUSE OF A COVENANT** (2 Sam.21:1-9) *Jonathan*

A. 3rd Time Hospitality Shown by David.

B. There was a famine in the land for 3 years. David kept seeking the Lord's face.

Finally, the Lord told him it was because of Saul and his blood guilt upon the Gibeonites (ethnic cleansing) [wow, 30 years earlier, deferred retribution, long-suffering of God].

C. David went & met with the Gibeonites, *they said we want 7 of saul's offspring to hang before the Lord.* David said **I will give them.** **And then,** the very next verse (7) **Slide9b** it says *but the king spared Mephibosheth because of the oath of the Lord that was between them between **David and Jonathan.***

D. How do you show Hospitality to a Rival, a Traitor, or because of a covenant?

1. **Slide9c Hospitality is the byproduct of Authentic Love.** **And** for **us** to show **Authentic Love** is by us being filled with the Holy Spirit, and **thus** overflowing with **kindness**, with **Hesed**, with **grace**, **thus** expressing clearly **Hospitality** (which is love of stranger, or rival, or or traitor, **or** because of a covenant).

VI. Slide10a **HOSPITALITY SHOWN TO US BY JESUS**

A. **As Mephibosheth** didn't have to fear David would keep his word, **so** we don't need to fear because *the Son of David/Jesus* will keep His Word!

B. **As Mephibosheth** didn't even know about this covenant that David had with his father Jonathan; but to David **it was sacred.**

1. You may never have known about *God's redemptive covenant* before this evening, **but** to Jesus **it is sacred.**

C. **As Mephibosheth** said, *What is your servant that you should show regard for a **dead dog** such as I?*

1. When you move from, "*I'm a pretty good person*", to the realization of you being *dead in trespasses and sin*, is where it all begins.
2. **Notice Grace** doesn't even answer his question.

D. **Slide10b** Mephibosheth's story is **Our Story** of redemption.

1. He belonged to a royal line, but was **made cripple by a fall**. Adam was of a royal line **but** then was made spiritually cripple because of his fall.
2. He was **sought by the king**. We didn't "find God", He found us.
3. He was **lame in his feet**. We are lame in our powers of spiritual obedience.
4. He **lived in exile from the king**. Mephibosheth *didn't even try* to win the king's favor. He was *hiding* from the king. Same is true of us. **We deserved nothing, had nothing, & could offer God nothing. We were *hiding* when He found us.**
5. He was remembered because of a **covenant**. Our **sin** separated us from our **King**, **but** *there exists this incredible covenant*.
6. He was **brought to the king** (5). We were called into the king's presence & exalted because of the merits of another.
7. He was **called by name** (6).
8. He responded in **humility** (6b).
9. He was told **not to fear** (7a).
10. He received **3 promises** [*kindness, restoration, & a place at the big table*] (7b)
11. He responded in **humility again** (8). There's something freeing about Grace. It puts all of the response on *God's shoulders* as He comes to us & says, "*You're mine. I take you just as you are, crutches & hang-ups & liabilities, & all.*"
12. He was given a **glorious heritage** (9,10).
13. He received **sonship/adoption/relationship** (11, *like 1 of the king's sons*). As part of Saul's family Mephibosheth had *no claim* to the kingdom. Yet David treated him as one of his own sons. Just as **God** has adopted *every Jesus Follower* into His family.
14. He received **esteem** (12b *Ziba's servants became Meph.*).
 - a) Eph.1:3 **Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with *every spiritual blessing* in the heavenly places.**
15. He received a **perpetual feast** (13 *always*).

a) Mt.8:11 I tell you, many will come from east and west and **recline at table** with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.

16. He enjoyed **uninterrupted fellowship** (13 **continually**).

a) As Adam did, when God walked w/him in the cool of the day.

b) As 1 day we will enjoy uninterrupted fellowship w/God. **Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.** Rev.21:3

17. He received a seat at the kings **banqueting table** (13b)

a) This is where the Lord **covers our feet w/His tablecloth** & says, “Have a seat. You’re mine. I choose you simply because I wanted to.”

b) **Reclining** in Eastern fashion, it was the 1 place his disability would be completely unnoticed!

E. **Yet, he was still lame in both his feet.** (no miraculous healing; still had his old nature to struggle w/). **But**, our **continual problem w/Sin** is a **continual reminder of His Grace.**

F. I like saying, when it came to my salvation, **“I did my part & God did His part!”**

1. **His part:** He called my, sought me, caught me, loved me, saved me, cleansed me, healed me, & delivered me. **My part ... was running away!**

2. It really is **Amazing Grace.**

VII. **Communion:**

A. It’s hard for us to appreciate the **scandal** Jesus caused by **His table fellowship** w/ **sinners.**

1. To share a meal w/someone is a guarantee of **peace, trust, fraternity, & forgiveness.** The **shared table** symbolizes a **shared life.**

2. For an orthodox Jew to say, **I would like to share a meal w/you** was like saying, **I would like to enter fellowship w/you.**

3. That’s what the corrupt tax collector **Zacchaeus heard** when Jesus called him down from the sycamore tree.

B. **Bread:**

1. Forgive us for **hiding** from You.
2. Forgive us for our **discontent** w/our **daily** bread; & only being content when we have tomorrows bread also.
3. Forgive us for leaning back on our **crutches**, when we can lean on **You**.
4. Forgive us for thinking we **deserve** anything besides *death & hell*.
5. Forgive us for showing **pride** & not **humility**.

C. **Cup:**

1. Thank you for calling us **by name**.
2. Thank you for reminding us ***we don't have to fear***.
3. Thank you for being our ***Jehovah Jireh***, our God that provides.
4. Thank you for proving **Your Son Jesus** as the Lamb that was needed for taking away our sins.
5. Thank you for our **sonship**, our **adoption**, our **relationship** w/You.
6. Thank you for the invitation to your **banqueting table** ... ***continually***.
7. Thank you for your tablecloth of grace.

D. Keywords: Hospitality, grace, redemption.