**Loving my Hurting Neighbor**

2 Samuel 9

**Lamentations 3:22-23**—The Lord’s lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail. 23They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.

**1 Samuel 20:15-17**—You shall not cut off your lovingkindness from my house forever, not even when the Lord cuts off every one of the enemies of David from the face of the earth.” 16So Jonathan made a *covenant* with the house of David, *saying*, “May the Lord require *it* at the hands of David’s enemies.” 17Jonathan made David vow again because of his love for him, because he loved him as he loved his own life.

**2 Samuel 9:1**—Then David said, “Is there yet [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Samuel+9%3A1&version=NASB#fen-NASB-8229a)]anyone left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan’s sake?”

**2 Samuel 9:3**—The king said, “Is there not yet anyone of the house of Saul to whom I may show the kindness of God?” And Ziba said to the king, “There is still a son of Jonathan who is crippled in both feet.”

**2 Samuel 9:6**—Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan the son of Saul, came to David and fell on his face and prostrated himself. And David said, “Mephibosheth.” And he said, “Here is your servant!”

**2 Samuel 9:11**—Then Ziba said to the king, “According to all that my lord the king commands his servant so your servant will do.” So Mephibosheth ate at David’s table as one of the king’s sons.

**2 Samuel 9:10**—You and your sons and your servants shall cultivate the land for him, and you shall bring in *the produce* so that your master’s grandson may have food; nevertheless Mephibosheth your master’s grandson shall [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Samuel+9%3A10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-8238a)]eat at my table regularly.” Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

# David shows exemplary mercy, love, and kindness toward Mephibosheth

## It was not a token expression

## It exemplifies *God’s kindness*

# David’s actions are the very picture of God’s grace to sinners

# The benevolence and tender mercies God bestows on us are given to us freely

## *We do not* deserve His favor

## They are given because of His extraordinary love for us

## As believers, we belong to Christ

## By faith, we are the recipients of divine blessings

# Hebrews 2:17-18—Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.

**Hebrews 4:15**—For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are, yet* without sin.

**Matthew 4:23**—Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people.

***Suffering itself can be a grace by which we are perfected***

**Philippians 1:29**—For to you it has been granted for Christ’s sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake.

**Romans 8:18**—And “the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us”

**Luke 4:18**—The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed.

**Matthew 5:3**—the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**Hebrews 2:15—** and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.

**Acts 26:18**—turnto open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.’ from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins.

***“The mercy that sustains us through our suffering is actually a greater mercy than if God simply erased every trace of hardship or difficulty from our lives”[[1]](#footnote-1)***

**2 Corinthians 12:9-10**—And He has said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.” Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+12%3A9-10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29032a)]about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. 10Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+12%3A9-10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29033b)]insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ’s sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

1. John MacArthur [↑](#footnote-ref-1)