

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of November 18, 2018

This Week's Focus: God's unmerited kindness and grace toward us through Jesus Christ produces within us a desire to extend his love to others.

This Week's Text: 2 Samuel 9

"For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life." **Titus 3:3-7**

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What has the Holy Spirit impressed on your heart and mind from this week's sermon/text? What have you learned more clearly about yourself, God, and the mission of God?
- Who is Mephibosheth and why did he have every reason to fear David? Why are we all like Mephibosheth, in need of kindness and grace? Why did David show him kindness (1 Samuel 18:1-5; 20:12-17) and whose kindness was he reflecting (verse 3)?
- What is significant about the use of the word *kindness* in this text, which is better translated *steadfast love* (Exodus 34:6)? What is the incredible kindness that God has shown us and how has it changed you (Colossians 3:12)?
- What areas of your life still need the transforming power the gospel?
- What benefits did Mephibosheth receive as a result of David's kindness (verse 7)? Discuss how we as God's adopted children have inherited the benefits of the Father's protection (1 John 4:4), provision and restoration (Philippians 3:8), and glorious position (Luke 14:12-24).
- How does David's table serve as a picture of Jesus' table and the nature of his kingdom?
- What should be our response to the kindness and grace of God? What should be the motivation for our acts of kindness and love toward others?
- Share how this passage encourages you to live on mission by demonstrating and declaring the gospel to those in your community and spheres of influence.