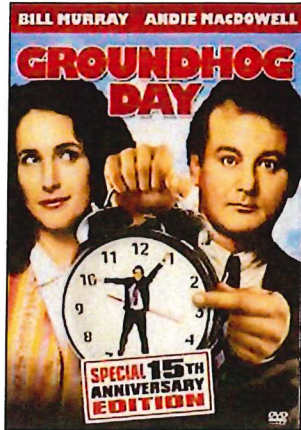


2 Samuel 9 Mephibosheth



The Bible shows us that God works in similar ways:

- ✓ Redemption is explained through repeated lessons in stories, poems, letters, typologies and illustrations.
- ✓ We cannot be told once; we've got to be told over & over and, often, shown by God.

David's Kindness to Mephibosheth

9 And David said, "Is there still anyone left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan's sake?" ² Now there was a servant of the house of Saul whose name was Ziba, and they called him to David. And the king said to him, "Are you Ziba?" And he said, "I am your servant." ³ And the king said, "Is there not still someone of the house of Saul, that I may show the kindness of God to him?" Ziba said to the king, "There is still a son of Jonathan; he is crippled in his feet." ⁴ The king said to him, "Where is he?" And Ziba said to the king, "He is in the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, at Lo-debar." ⁵ Then King David sent and brought him from the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, at Lo-debar. ⁶ And Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan, son of Saul, came to David and fell on his face and paid homage. And David said, "Mephibosheth!" And he answered, "Behold, I am your servant." ⁷ And David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan, and I will restore to you all the land of Saul your father, and you shall eat at my table always." ⁸ And he paid homage and said, "What is your servant, that you should show regard for a dead dog such as I?"

⁹ Then the king called Ziba, Saul's servant, and said to him, "All that belonged to Saul and to all his house I have given to your master's grandson." ¹⁰ And you and your sons and your servants shall till the land for him and shall bring in the produce, that your master's grandson may have bread to eat. But Mephibosheth your master's grandson shall always eat at my table." Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants. ¹¹ Then Ziba said to the king, "According to all that my lord the king commands his servant, so will your servant do." So Mephibosheth ate at David's table, like one of the king's sons. ¹² And Mephibosheth had a young son, whose name was Mica. And all who lived in Ziba's house became Mephibosheth's servants. ¹³ So Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, for he ate always at the king's table. Now he was lame in both his feet.

David & Jonathan's Covenant (1 Sam 20:14-15)

¹⁴ If I am still alive, show me the steadfast love of the LORD, that I may not die; ¹⁵ and do not cut off your steadfast love from my house forever, when the LORD cuts off every one of the enemies of David from the face of the earth."

David & Saul's Covenant (1 Sam 24:20-22)

²⁰ And now, behold, I know that you shall surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in your hand. ²¹ Swear to me therefore by the LORD that you will not cut off my offspring after me, and that you will not destroy my name out of my father's house." ²² And David swore this to Saul.

2 Samuel 4:4

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, 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.

v6 **And David said, "Mephibosheth!"**

Exodus 33:17

And the Lord said to Moses, "This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name."

Isaiah 45:3

I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

MEPHIBOSHETH

BEFORE	AFTER
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hiding in an obscure place—out of view of Kingdom• Living in fear of being found• Under the threat of death• No future• No way to make a living• Hiding royal lineage• No knowledge of his father & David's promised provision for him	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In center of Kingdom• Provisions for life• Safety of the King• Like a son to the king

Verse	2 Samuel 9	Gospel Correlation
1	David remembered his promise to Jonathan (15-20 yrs later).	God remembered His promise to Abraham (thousands of yrs earlier); saved us based on that promise. God does not change. He does not forget.
1	Grace to Mephibosheth was based on David's love for Jonathan	Grace to us is based on the Father's love for His son
3	The king had every reason to regard him as an enemy (House of Saul). But, gave grace.	Rom 5:8: God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners Rom 5:10: For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son,
5	David <u>initiated contact</u> with a forgotten, obscure, broken man. Mephibosheth did nothing to deserve this kindness (hesed love)	Jesus <u>came</u> for the lost, broken, sick, unrighteous. John 15:16 - You did not choose me, but I chose you
6, 8	Mephibosheth did not presume favor. Submitted to the king.	Right posture in which a sinner responds to a holy God Luke 18:13: But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!'
7	Reason Mephibosheth was redeemed was because of a promise David made before Mephibosheth was ever born. Mephibosheth was rescued on the basis of something that did not depend on Mephibosheth. Mephibosheth's new life (salvation) was on the basis of a promise David made to his father.	Reason we are saved is because of a promise the Son made to Father before we were ever created.
7, 8	Mephibosheth had nothing to do with earning the king's favor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He brought nothing to the table.....except a lot of trouble. • He brought to the table a lot of expense & effort. He had to be cared for comprehensively. He required HESED love, and David was pleased to give it. 	We did not earn salvation by being good, by being innocent, or by being worthy. We bring nothing to the table. Just our sins. We do not earn God's favor. We require HESED love. Christ delivered it and continues to deliver it. It is His pleasure to do so. Eph 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.
13	Mephibosheth moved and lived in Jerusalem. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No longer hiding in Lo-debar • Lived in the very center of the Kingdom 	Former life: hiding from the righteous King Parable of the Great Banquet; Luke 14 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.'

Consider the last sentence: **Now he was lame in both his feet.**

The Lord will gather the lame to Himself	then shall the lame man leap like a deer (Is 35:6)
	Behold, I will bring them from the north country and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame (Jer 31:8)
	In that day, declares the LORD, I will assemble the lame and gather those who have been driven away and those whom I have afflicted; ⁷ and the lame I will make the remnant , and those who were cast off, a strong nation; (Micah 4:6-7)

David & Mephibosheth, in 2 Samuel 9, is a picture of the gospel of Jesus Christ

1. How He calls us when we were not looking for him. He calls. He comes for us. His idea
2. How we were helpless and bound; no future hope
3. When we fall before Him, on our faces, unprepared and unworthy, He speaks kindness to us
4. He not only speaks kindness to us---He shows great kindness to us (HESED love)
 - Comprehensive love, care, compassion that we never expected but really needed
5. We sit at his table, as sons & daughters, with the rest of the family. We ARE His family now.
6. As we sit at that family table, we are still lame in both feet
 - Lame feet could not keep Him away.
 - It's the Father's good pleasure to bring us there.
 - We were chosen to be there before the foundations of the world.