

Clarence Park Baptist Church

Question for Week following service 2nd May 2021

A CAST OF *Characters*

COMMON PEOPLE in the HANDS of AN UNCOMMON GOD



WORSHIP God **GROW** Together **SERVE** Others

Week 3 – Mephibosheth
2 Samiel 4:4 & 9:1-13

Preparation

1. Watch the sermon from the church YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/wFjQW2-rGGY>
2. Read the passages on the next page and reflect on the questions before meeting with the rest of the group to explore your journeys together

Group Study

- Begin with a time of prayer – asking God to help you learn something new

2 Samuel 4:4 New International Version - UK

⁴ (Jonathan son of Saul had a son who was lame in both feet. He was five years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel. His nurse picked him up and fled, but as she hurried to leave, he fell and became disabled. His name was Mephibosheth.)

2 Samuel 9:1-13 New International Version - UK

David and Mephibosheth

⁹ David asked, 'Is there anyone still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan's sake?'

² Now there was a servant of Saul's household named Ziba. They summoned him to appear before David, and the king said to him, 'Are you Ziba?' 'At your service,' he replied.

³ The king asked, 'Is there no one still alive from the house of Saul to whom I can show God's kindness?' Ziba answered the king, 'There is still a son of Jonathan; he is lame in both feet.'

⁴ 'Where is he?' the king asked. Ziba answered, 'He is at the house of Makir son of Ammiel in Lo Debar.'

⁵ So King David had him brought from Lo Debar, from the house of Makir son of Ammiel.

⁶ When Mephibosheth son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, came to David, he bowed down to pay him honour.

David said, 'Mephibosheth!' 'At your service,' he replied. ⁷ 'Don't be afraid,' David said to him, 'for I will surely show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan. I will restore to you all the land that belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will always eat at my table.' ⁸ Mephibosheth bowed down and said, 'What is your servant, that you should notice a dead dog like me?'

⁹ Then the king summoned Ziba, Saul's steward, and said to him, 'I have given your master's grandson everything that belonged to Saul and his family. ¹⁰ You and your sons and your servants are to farm the land for him and bring in the crops, so that your master's grandson may be provided for. And Mephibosheth, grandson of your master, will always eat at my table.' (Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.)

¹¹ Then Ziba said to the king, 'Your servant will do whatever my lord the king commands his servant to do.' So Mephibosheth ate at David's table like one of the king's sons. ¹² Mephibosheth had a young son named Mika, and all the members of Ziba's household were servants of Mephibosheth. ¹³ And Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, because he always ate at the king's table; he was lame in both feet.

Questions for discussion

Reflect and share your experiences together using the following questions.

Take time at the end to ask what is God teaching you this week to help you grow as a disciple of Jesus?

1. Is there anything from the readings or message this week that stood out to you?
2. If it is not our offering that grants us a place at the feast, what does?
3. God doesn't look at our frazzled lives and say "I'll die for you when you deserve it." Had God said such a thing, how would that affect you right now? Has anyone ever deserved for God to die for them? Explain.
4. In his book Max Lucado lists some of the benefits of blessings to be found at Gods table.
 - *You are beyond you are beyond condemnation (Romans 8: 1)*
 - *You are delivered from the law (Romans 7:6)*
 - *You are near God (Ephesians 2:13)*
 - *You are delivered from the power of evil (Colossians 1:13)*
 - *You are a member of his Kingdom (Colossians 1:13)*
 - *You are justified (Romans 5:1)*
 - *You are perfect (Hebrews 10:14)*
 - *You have been adopted (Romans 8:15)*
 - *You have access to God at any moment (Ephesians 2:18)*
 - *You are part of his priesthood (1 Peter 2:5)*
 - *You will never be abandoned (Hebrews 13:5)*
 - *You have an imperishable inheritance (1 Peter 1:4)*
 - *You are a partner with Christ in life (Colossians 3:4) and privilege (Ephesians 2:6), suffering (2 Timothy 2:12) and service (1 Corinthians 1:9)*

You are a:

- *Member of his body (1 Corinthians 12:13)*
 - *branch in the Vine (John 15:5)*
 - *stone in the building (Ephesians 2:19-22)*
 - *bride for the groom (Ephesians 5:25-27)*
 - *priest in the new generation (1 Peter 2:9)*
 - *and dwelling place of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19)*
- i. Which of these is most precious to you? Why?
 - ii. Which blessing seems most distant? Why?
 - iii. How can knowledge of these blessings practically affect the way you live?
5. Read Matthew 5:6
 - i. What does it mean to hunger and thirst for righteousness?
 - ii. What is their blessing?
 - iii. Are you in this group?

Matthew 5:6

New International Version - UK

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Prayer

Take some time to share prayer needs, pray for one another, for the church and for our local community before finishing with the words of the grace.