

What is grace? We're learning that grace is undeserved blessing. Okay, but what does that mean? What's it look like? On Wednesdays this month, we're looking at faces of grace–examples of real people in the Bible who gave and received grace. This week, David and Mephibosheth.

When David was much younger, King Saul hated him because he was very jealous of David. Even though Saul was mean,



David was always kind and respectful to the king, and his best friend was Saul's son, Jonathan. In fact, David made two promises: one to Jonathan (1 Sam 20:14-15) and one to Saul (1 Sam 24:20-22).

Years later, in **2 Samuel 9**, David asked, "Is there anyone left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan's sake?" Let's read 2 Samuel 9 together and notice a few important points:

- Mephibosheth had been crippled in his feet since he was _____ years old (9:3; 4:4)
- Mephibosheth was ______ of what David was going to do to him because of how his grandfather had treated David (9:6-7)
- Even though Mephibosheth had nothing, deserved nothing, and could ______ nothing, David gave him all that had belonged to his grandfather Saul (9:9) and adopted him into his family (9:10)

What is that? That's grace!

For Class & Family Discussion:

- What does it mean to "hold a grudge"? Have you ever heard that phrase?
- Sometimes, people "hold grudges" for a long, long time. They might even be mean to a person's kids or grandkids, even though those kids or grandkids did nothing wrong. Is that right?
- Let's open our Bibles to Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and read Matthew 5:43-48.
 - What did Jesus mean when he said, "For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have?" (5:46)
 - Could Mephibosheth do anything for David? If not, why was David kind to him?
- Last week we opened our Bibles to Romans 12. This week, let's focus on 12:16. How was David a good example of this verse?
- There are people all around us who (like Mephibosheth) are going through hard times.
 What can we do to help?
 Matthew 7:12 would be a good verse to remember...