

CATEGORY

Christlike Manhood

TITLE

Kindness to the Less Fortunate

REFERENCE

2 Samuel 9:1–13

• orange merit •

2 Samuel

LEADERS LESSON OVERVIEW—Lesson 3



FOR THE LEADER

In this lesson, we will discover that God wants us to be alert for people we can be kind to.

KEY POINT

We should show kindness to those who are in need.

KEY VERSE

“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.” **2 Samuel 9:7**

Note: Boys are not required to memorize the Key Point or Key Verse to receive completion

credit for this lesson.

For information on how to use Bible merits in a Royal Rangers meeting, refer to the TRaCclub Support section or the *Royal Rangers Leader Manual*.

REFLECT ANSWERS

These answers match the questions in the Reflect section of the boys’ sheet.

- Because Mephibosheth was Jonathan’s son and David wanted to be kind to one of Saul’s surviving relatives.
- Answers will vary.
- Answers will vary.



MATERIALS & PREP

Prepare a copy of the Student Handout for each boy.

- Place in your area that shows kindness to less fortunate people

Read the lesson in advance, taking note of the main points. Be prepared to present the lesson to your group, but avoid reading it word for word. Include discussion with the group to make it more enjoyable for everyone.

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STUDENT HANDOUT—Lesson 3



KEY THOUGHTS

KEY POINT

We should show kindness to those who are in need.

KEY VERSE

“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.” **2 Samuel 9:7**



READ

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

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.

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.”

“Where is he?” the king asked.

Ziba answered, “He is at the house of Makir son of Ammiel in Lo Debar.”

So King David had him brought from Lo

Debar, from the house of Makir son of Ammiel.

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

David said, “Mephibosheth!”

“At your service,” he replied.

“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.”

Mephibosheth bowed down and said, “What is your servant, that you should notice a dead dog like me?”

Then the king summoned Ziba, Saul’s steward, and said to him, “I have given your master’s grandson everything that

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2 SAMUEL—Lesson 3

belonged to Saul and his family. 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.)

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.

Mephibosheth had a young son named Mika, and all the members of Ziba's household were servants of Mephibosheth. And Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, because he always ate at the king's table; he was lame in both feet (2 Samuel 9:1–13).

King David wanted to show God's kindness to the house of Saul. Saul had been a wicked king, and he had treated David badly. However, Saul's son Jonathan had been David's best friend. After Saul died, David became king. David knew that God is good and kind. David wanted to show the goodness of God to whoever was still alive in Saul's family.

Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan and grandson of Saul, was still alive. However, Mephibosheth was lame in both feet. In ancient Israel, lame people couldn't hold jobs. They depended on the kindness of others. Most of them begged in the street.

It wasn't normal for a king to notice a lame man from a disgraced family. But, David didn't just notice Mephibosheth's situation. He changed it.

First, the David gave Mephibosheth the land that had belonged to King Saul. This was a generous gift. The land had become David's when David became king. Even more, David let

Mephibosheth live in the king's house and eat at the king's table.

David said he did this to "show God's kindness." God's kindness to people is lavish. God is concerned about everyone. But He takes special notice of those who are looked down on and are less fortunate.

Jesus helped people who were poor. He also helped people who were outcasts, and people who were desperate. God wants us to follow the examples of David and Jesus. God wants us to be kind to the hurting, the needy, and the ignored.

When we find people like that and do good things for them, we are acting like David. And we are putting God's kindness on display.



REFLECT

As a group, discuss the following questions.

- Why did David show kindness to Mephibosheth?
- What are some ways that God has shown kindness to you?
- Who are some people that are less fortunate in our society that might need kindness shown to them?

Review the Key Point and the Key Verse.

PRAYER: Dear God, thank You that You are a loving and kind God to me. Please help me show Your kindness to everyone I meet. Amen.

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