



# LIFE GROUPS DISCUSSION GUIDE

November 22, 2020

## FRIEND OF SINNERS 2 Samuel 9

### CONNECT

1. When have you sat down to meal (or coffee) with someone in order to heal your relationship with them? Share one or two stories around your group.

### CELEBRATE

2. David promised faithfulness to Jonathan. It would have been easy to neglect that promise, but David went to great lengths to find someone to fulfill his promise to Jonathan. What does this indicate about David's heart? Why might God be pleased to call David a man after His own heart (Acts 13:22)?
3. Ziba explains that Mephibosheth is physically disabled. This does not deter David in the slightest from seeing Mephibosheth as a full person worthy of honor. How does God want us to view the people around us? Who are the "least of these" that Jesus gives His life for?
4. Mephibosheth's name means "from the mouth of shame." David restores him from a position of loss to royal honors. Read 1 Timothy 1:15. What connections do you see between yourself and Mephibosheth? What connections do you see between Jesus and David?
5. David risks rebellion from his loyal servants who may remember Saul and his lineage with anger and resentment. David risks their displeasure to honor and restore Mephibosheth. David operates out of love instead of fear. Take a few moments to prayerfully consider the past few weeks. Have you been living out of fear or out of love? Read 2 Timothy 1:7. Ask God for the grace to follow what it says.
6. Read Ephesians 2:1-9. Identify everything God does in the process of salvation. Read it again and identify everything we do in the process of salvation. How then should we regard our salvation? What do these actions by God reveal about His heart for you?
7. Just as Mephibosheth freely partook of the king's table, so can you freely partake of the King's table. Though Mephibosheth did not earn his place at the table, David gave it to him freely and would have been disappointed if Mephibosheth had not come to the table daily. How do you suppose God feels about you coming into His presence daily?

### CONTRIBUTE

8. Raw justice would say that David should avoid Saul's lineage for how horribly Saul treated him. Yet, full of God's grace and love, David sought Mephibosheth out, honored him and cherished him. Think of your life. Who does society say you should avoid? What divides exist between you and your neighbors, family and community?
9. Take time to pray. Where is God calling you to go, full of His grace and love? Where can you bring healing by honoring and cherishing those that society says you should avoid?