



## Lesson 85

# Mephibosheth

### Story Elements

- **Text:** 2 Samuel 9:1-13
- **Setting:** approx. 1010 B.C.
- **Main Characters:** God, David, Mephibosheth
- **Plot:** David shows kindness to the last of Saul's descendants.
- **Key word(s):** “kindness” (vv 1, 3, 7)
- **Climax:** *“Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, was come unto David, he fell on his face, and did reverence. And David said, Mephibosheth. And he answered, Behold thy servant!”* (v 6)

### Searching for Survivors (2 Sam. 9:1-4)

- 1) Unlike other kings, David did not lose his sense of gratitude or mercy as his territory and power grew. David asked his servants if they knew of any survivors of Saul's house that he could show kindness to. Why is this request so unusual? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2) David wished to show such kindness to honor his covenant with his truest friend, Jonathan.

*1 Sam. 20:42 And Jonathan said to David, Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn both of us in the name of the LORD, saying, The LORD be between me and thee, and between my \_\_\_\_\_ and thy \_\_\_\_\_ for ever.*

- 3) Ziba, a former servant of Saul, told David that one of Jonathan's sons survived – Mephibosheth.
  - a) He lived with a wealthy man by the name of \_\_\_\_\_ the son of Ammiel in a town called Lo-debar, about 10 miles south of the Sea of Galilee.
  - b) Mephibosheth was “lame on his feet” because when he was a child he was \_\_\_\_\_ by his nurse when she fled at the news of Saul's death. (cf. 2 Sam. 4:4)

### Served as a Son (2 Sam. 7:5-13)

- 4) As the next-in-line to Saul's throne, Mephibosheth had every reason to believe that David summoned him for nefarious purposes. He greets the king with a humble salutation: *“Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, was come unto David, he fell on his face, and did reverence. And David said, Mephibosheth. And he answered, Behold thy \_\_\_\_\_!”* (v 6)

