



Uncommon Kindness

Pastors Bucknam Thompson Creutz Bell Nichols | 1 Sam. 24:1–22

NOTE: As a guide, use these questions to help with group discussion. Not all questions are needed. Select the ones that will best serve your group as you grow in Christ together through His Word. Soli Deo Gloria.

ICE BREAKER:

What's the most awkward place you've ever run into someone unexpectedly?

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT IN CONTEXT:

For background, how does 1 Samuel 18:6-12 describe Saul's attitude toward David?

How does Psalm 59:1-5 describe David's attitude toward Saul — and David's trust in God?

How do the people describe the Lord's activity in this week's text? Who mentioned God and why?

CONNECTING TO JESUS AND HIS GOSPEL:

Read these texts together: Luke 23:32-34; Romans 5:6-11; Hebrews 10:11-14. Discuss how Jesus treats those opposed to Him. What is the result of such radical kindness and grace?

LIVING OUT THE TRUTH:

Discuss ways to grow in the Christ-like character modeled by David:

For the heart to 'embrace humility.'

For wisdom to 'clarify misunderstandings.'

For an abiding faith and joy to 'leave it with God.'

Pray for one another. If specific relationships come to mind, pray for those, too.

PARENTING MOMENT AND FAMILY FOCUS:

Ask your kids to think of a time that they reacted in anger to someone else, a sibling, friend, or their parents. With David's example from this story, ask them to envision what might have happened if they had chosen kindness instead. Explain how reacting in kindness, even when people don't deserve it, can help your relationships with other people and with God.

FURTHER STUDY:

For more on this story, read 'David Spares Saul's Life' at Ligonier.org, including the 'Coram Deo' section and additional Biblical passages.

For more on reconciliation, read 'How to Reconcile with Another Christian' at tabletalkmagazine.com.



THE RISE AND FALL OF A KING



THE LIFE OF DAVID

QUESTIONS FOR NEXT WEEK'S SERMON:
Rise and Fall of a King – Mephibosheth
2 Samuel 9:1-13 — January 31–February 1

This page gets us into the text for the next sermon. The more familiarity we have with God's Word, the better we can see God and all that He has for us.

In the days leading up to next weekend, set aside a few minutes to read the text and reflect on these questions. A prayer to start: 'Open my eyes that I may behold wonderful things out of your law' - Psalm 119:18

Background: King Saul has died. David is now king. David remembers a promise to his good friend, Jonathan. Jonathan is Saul's son. But, Jonathan, too, is now dead.

- 1. What promise is David remembering? Read 1 Samuel 20:14-17 and 1 Samuel 23:17-18.**
- 2. What is motivating David? How did David bless Mephibosheth?**
- 3. Contrast Mephibosheth's life at the start of this story with his life at the end of this story.**
- 4. From the beginning to the conclusion of this story, describe Mephibosheth's range of emotions (some explicit in the text, some implicit).**
- 5. What in this text confuses you?**
- 6. What in this text compels you?**
- 7. Prayerfully consider how the grace Mephibosheth receives is a foreshadowing of the grace we receive from Jesus. What are the similarities? Thank God for that grace and so much more that we have in Christ.**