

Resolved: Common People/Uncommon Courage

David

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. (Matt. 5:7)

David: the courage of compassion...

David asked, "Is there anyone still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan's sake?" (2 Sam. 9:1)

Courageous compassion...

- **Is compelled by God's grace** – "...the king said to him, 'Are you Ziba?' 'Your servant,' he replied. The king asked, 'Is there no one still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show God's kindness?'" (vv. 2-3a)

The LORD gave David victory wherever he went. David reigned over all Israel, doing what was right and just for all his people. (2 Sam. 8:14b-15)

- **Pursues a desperate life** – "Ziba answered the king, 'There is still a son of Jonathan; he is crippled in both feet. 'Where is he?' the king asked. '...So King David had him brought from Lo Debar, from the house of Makir son of Ammiel.'" (v. 3b-5)

¶ **You never know the back-story to someone's present reality** – "Jonathan son of Saul had a son who was lame in both feet. He was five years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel. His nurse picked him up and fled, but as she hurried to leave, he fell and became crippled. His name was Mephibosheth." (2 Sam. 4:4)

- **Extends an undeserved blessing** – "When Mephibosheth son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, came to David, he bowed down to pay him honor.... '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?'" (vv. 6-8)

¶ **Courageous compassion: helping a "dead dog" become a "king's son"** – "So Mephibosheth ate at David's table like one of the king's sons." (v. 11b)

And Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, because he always ate at the king's table, and he was crippled in both feet. (v. 13)

David and Mephibosheth: a picture of Jesus and me...

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. (Titus 3:4)