



Why? Robert Morris

Focus Sometimes when we think of God, we think of judgment and condemnation. Yet, He is kind and compassionate and wants to have a deep relationship with us and bless us!

Fun If you had to choose, would you pick a lazy day at the beach or a challenging hike up the mountainside?

Review Key Scriptures: 2 Samuel 9:1–8; Hebrews 6:13–14; Romans 4:3

1. Why did Mephibosheth's nurse run?

2 Samuel 4:4

It was the tradition of kings to kill all remaining descendants of a previous king. When news came that Saul and Jonathan had both been killed, there was a great fear because David had already been anointed as king. In order to protect Mephibosheth, his nurse fled with him.

2. Why did God show up and talk to Abraham?

Hebrews 6:13–14; Genesis 12:1–3, 15:9–10, 15:12, 15:17–18; Romans 4:3

Abraham was a heathen when God chose him. He was not a righteous man, yet God wanted to meet with him and to bless him.

3. Why did David show kindness to Mephibosheth?

2 Samuel 9:8 (NKJV)

David showed kindness to Mephibosheth because he had a covenant with Jonathan, Mephibosheth's father. The covenant between Jonathan and David extended to Mephibosheth as well. In the same way, as believers in Christ, God's covenant includes us. He wants to bless us and show us kindness, too.

Group Dynamics Idea The next two weekends are our outreach weekends at all services and campuses, so take this opportunity to bring a friend, family member, or coworker to church. Actor Craig T. Nelson (August 17–18) and comedian Michael Jr (August 24–25) will be sharing their stories and the message of the gospel.

Discuss

1. Read 2 Samuel 9:1–8. What words of comfort did David speak to Mephibosheth as he stood before him? Why?
2. According to Hebrews 6:13–14, why did God swear by Himself in order to honor His covenant with Abraham? What did God promise to do for Abraham?
3. Genesis 15:9–10, 15:12, and 15:17–18 illustrate the making of a covenant. Pastor Robert stated that in this covenant, the smoking oven represented God, the Father. Who did the burning torch represent? Why did God put Abraham into a deep sleep?
4. What was “accounted” to Abraham because He believed? How does this apply to us as believers (Romans 4:3)?
5. Read 2 Samuel 9:6–7. Consider Mephibosheth’s reaction to being summoned by David. Discuss the various emotions he may have experienced as he prepared to meet the king.
6. When you first heard God’s call, were you expecting judgment or blessing? If you are comfortable doing so, share what your thoughts were.
7. If you died today, would you go to heaven? If you are not sure, take a quiet moment to commit your life to God, saying: Jesus, thank You for taking my penalty for sin on the cross. I believe that You are the Son of God, and I want to spend eternity with You. Come into my life and take control. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- God made a covenant with His Son.

- This covenant includes all who believe in His Son.
- It stands as a promise of blessing.

Prayer Thank You, God, for promising to bless me. I believe in Your promise because You are faithful. You are a good, good Father. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Reinforce the need for good study habits. Reading the Bible strengthens us spiritually, devotions help us to grow in God's Word, and meeting in small Bible study groups can propel our learning to a higher level.