

## The Anointed King: Anticipation For A Forever King Begins

### Undeserved Kindness

2 Samuel 8-10

#### Main Idea

God's covenant faithfulness brings undeserved kindness to those humble enough to receive it.

#### Overview

- **God is faithful to his covenant promises (ch. 8)**
  - In 2 Samuel 7:8-11, God makes three promises to David:
    - He will give him rest from his enemies
    - He will make a great name for David
    - He will appoint a place for God's people
  - Chapter 8 shows God fulfilling these promises
    - David defeats the Philistines, Moab, Syria, and Edomites (v. 1, 2, 3, 5, 13-14)
    - The Lord gives David victory where he goes, thus building a name for David (v. 6, 13, 14)
    - David now reigns over all Israel, thus they have their appointed place (v. 15)
- **God's covenant faithfulness brings undeserved kindness (ch. 9)**
  - David has a covenant with Saul (cf. 1 Sam. 24:20-22) and with Jonathan (cf. 1 Sam. 20:42) and is eager to be faithful to his covenant
    - David is faithful to honor his covenant just as God is faithful to honor his covenant
  - Mephibosheth is the only survivor from the house of Saul/Jonathan
    - Though he is undeserving, David shows him "kindness" for the sake of Jonathan
    - The author wants us to know Mephibosheth is both undeserving (from the house of David's enemy) and unable to pay David back (he is crippled)
    - Mephibosheth receives undeserved kindness from David not because of what he has done but because of Jonathan
    - He gets the dual blessing of property and position and he's humbled
- **What happens when you reject the kindness of God? (ch. 10)**
  - David wants to show king Hanun "loyalty" (same word as kindness in chapter 9)
  - But instead of humbly receiving David's kindness, Hanun rejects it (v. 3-5)
  - In the end, Hanun tries to protect his little kingdom but it fades and fails (v. 10:17-11:1)

#### Questions

**Discussion Starter:** *Why do you think there is a common perception by non-Christians that Christians think they are morally superior and/or more deserving?*

1. Read 2 Samuel 7:8-11, 8:1-18. How do you see God's promises to David in chapter 7 being fulfilled in chapter 8. What does this tell you about the character of God?
2. Have group members share a couple specific instances where they have seen God's faithfulness. How does this call you to trust God going forward? Praise God in prayer for this aspect of his character.

3. Read 2 Samuel 9:1-13. How do you see David reflecting the character of God? Why does David act this way? How might our society expect us to act differently?
4. Talk about the situation of Mephibosheth prior to coming to David. Contrast that with the blessings David bestowed upon Mephibosheth. How does this paint a picture of the grace of the gospel?
5. How does the same kindness David showed Mephibosheth point us to the kindness shown to us in Christ? How does this shape our view of God, ourselves, and how we go about serving those around us?
6. Why should Christians never look down on others as if they are undeserving? Why are we so often compelled to do so?
7. How have you seen your brothers and sisters at Restoration Church serve the underserving?
8. Read 2 Samuel 10:1-5. How does king Hanun respond to David's act of kindness? Why does king Hanun respond this way? In what ways are we tempted to respond like king Hanun?
9. Read 2 Samuel 10:17-11:1. What happens to king Hanun? How does this picture our life apart from the King's kindness?

**Accountability question:** *Are there areas where you feel superior/better/more deserving than others? If so, repent of those areas. Talk about how the cross of Christ covers our shame.*