

THE LIFE OF DAVID THE MESSAGE CONNECT

The Message Connect is a devotion that goes deeper into Sunday morning's message, intentionally connecting it to our lives throughout the week. Through a 15-20 minute video and discussion guide, we challenge everyone to go deeper in their faith because we believe growing people change for God's glory and their God-honoring life purpose.

WEEK SIX: COMPASSION OF THE KING

Go online to ringgoldchurch.com/themessageconnect to watch this week's Message Connect video.

Series Overview:

Every hero has flaws, even the ones we read about in the Bible. In the life of David—a king of Israel and a man after God's own heart—we see a hero with glimpses of greatness and wounds of pride. Through David's failures, challenges, and triumphs, we see a greater Hero. The hero was not David, but God Himself. God humbled David and pointed people back to the one, true, King.

Key Scriptures:

2 Samuel 9

Next Steps:

1. Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

What is your favorite holiday of the year? What is your favorite moment from this holiday?

2. Start Thinking. Ask a thoughtful question.

What did God teach you during the message this weekend? Did anything in particular stand out?

3. Start Sharing. Here are questions to help you dig deeper into God's Word.

2 Samuel 9: Why was David looking for someone in Saul's family? What were the risks in inviting Mephibosheth to eat at his table?

What might have Mephibosheth been thinking when he was summoned to see David? What typically happened to the prior king's descendants after a change in leadership?

Your character is never tested more than when you have something to lose, and you have to choose between your word and a way out. Have you ever had to keep your word even though it wasn't the most convenient or easiest thing to do?

What did David restore to Mephibosheth? What was Mephibosheth's response to David's compassion? What can we learn from his response?

In this passage, there are many similarities between David and Jesus and Mephibosheth and us. What similarities stick out between David and Jesus? In what way(s) can you relate with Mephibosheth?

The gospel offers an oasis instead of a desert, royalty instead of condemnation, and restoration instead of repossession. When you say, "I can't pay for that," Jesus says, "I already did." Do you have a process of reminding yourself of the gospel each and every day? If so, what is it? If not, do you want one?

4. Start Praying. Be bold, and pray with power.

Take some time to pray over identified action steps and life issues. Pray that God would continue to actively grow and mature you in Christ.

5. Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week

David was not afraid to reach across tribal lines and love people like Mephibosheth, who were very different from him. Jesus behaved the same way, interacting with sinners, tax collectors, and people who would ultimately betray Him. We are called to do the same thing.

In what way(s) are you being challenged to show love and kindness to someone who is very different from you?

Do you feel like it is countercultural to follow Jesus right now? How can we practically and intentionally show love and acceptance instead of hate and rejection?

For more information about taking the next steps in your faith, visit: ringgoldchurch.com/nextsteps.

LET PASTOR DON LEAD YOUR DISCUSSION.

Pastor Don created The Message Connect videos for *The Life of David*. Go deeper and wider in your faith walk with us by going to ringgoldchurch.com/messageconnect.