

IN STEP THE POWER OF WALKING WITH GOD

Kindness
August 8, 2021

Galatians 5:25 *Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*

Galatians 5:22-23 *Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control.*

2 Samuel 9:1-13 *David asked, "Is there anyone still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan's sake?" ² Now there was a servant of Saul's household named Ziba. They summoned him to appear before David, and the king said to him, "Are you Ziba?" "At your service," he replied. ³ The king asked, "Is there no one still alive from the house of Saul to whom I can show God's kindness?" Ziba answered the king, "There is still a son of Jonathan; he is lame in both feet." ⁴ "Where is he?" the king asked. Ziba answered, "He is at the house of Makir son of Ammiel in Lo Debar." ⁵ So King David had him brought from Lo Debar, from the house of Makir son of Ammiel. ⁶ When Mephibosheth son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, came to David, he bowed down to pay him honor. David said, "Mephibosheth!" "At your service," he replied. ⁷ "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. ⁸ Mephibosheth bowed down and said, "What is your servant, that you should notice a dead dog like me?" ⁹ Then the king summoned Ziba, Saul's steward, and said to him, "I have given your master's grandson everything that belonged to Saul and his family. ¹⁰ You and your sons and your servants are to farm the land for him and bring in the crops, so that your master's grandson may be provided for. And Mephibosheth, grandson of your master, will always eat at my table." (Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.) ¹¹ Then Ziba said to the king, "Your servant will do whatever my lord the king commands his servant to do." So Mephibosheth ate at David's[a] table like one of the king's sons. ¹² Mephibosheth had a young son named Mika, and all the members of Ziba's household were servants of Mephibosheth. ¹³ And Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, because he always ate at the king's table; he was lame in both feet.*

Hesed = Unfailing, lovingkindness toward God's people

KINDNESS IS LOVE IN ACTION

2 Samuel 9:6-7 *When Mephibosheth son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, came to David, he bowed down to pay him honor. David said "Mephibosheth!" "At your service," he replied. ⁷ "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."*

Ephesians 4:32 *Be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.*

We do for others because Christ did for us.

STEP UP: Get with God.

STEP IN: Take time to be kind.

- **Philippians 2:4** Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

STEP IN: Avoid harshness - Speak truth in love.

- Chrétos - Goodness which meets the need and avoids harshness
- **Ephesians 4:29-31** Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.

STEP OUT: Practice kindness in community.

- **Hebrews 10:24** And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

Do for others because Christ did for us.

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