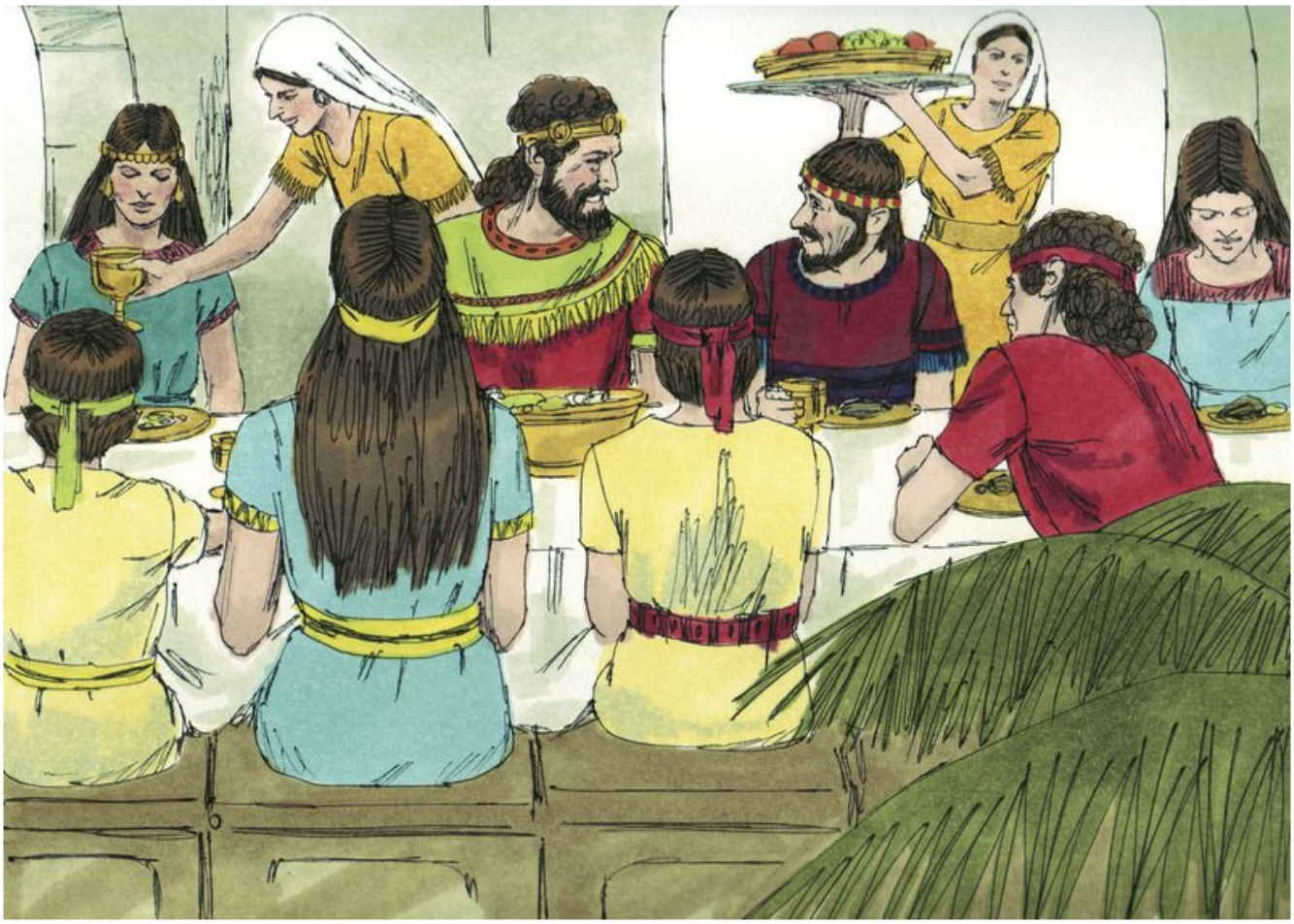
GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

A Welcome at the King's Table

2 Samuel 9:1-13



YOUR BIBLE READING

A welcoming place can include practical provision without requiring someone to change their body.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

David Looks for Someone to Welcome



2 Samuel 9:1-13

King David asked whether anyone remained from Saul's household to whom he could show kindness for Jonathan's sake. His question looked toward a person, not a new building or military plan. Jonathan had been his friend. Now David wanted his kindness to reach someone from that family. A servant of Saul's household named Ziba was called, and David asked him whether there was someone he could help with God's kindness.

Ziba said that Jonathan still had a son. The man had a disability affecting both his feet. David asked where he was, and Ziba named the house of Machir, son of Ammiel, in Lo Debar. These details gave the king a place to send for him. The account does not say that the man's disability was a punishment or that he needed to become different before David could offer him welcome.

David sent for the man, whose name was Mephibosheth. He was Jonathan's son and Saul's grandson. When he came before the king, he bowed low in respect and answered when David addressed him. The meeting brought together the powerful king and the member of Jonathan's household whom he had been seeking. What David would say next would make clear that his question about kindness was leading to a practical change in the man's life.

David told Mephibosheth not to be afraid. He would show kindness for Jonathan's sake, restore the land that had belonged to Saul, and give Mephibosheth a regular place at his own table. This was not only a brief greeting for one visit. The promise included property and ongoing meals. The account lets the reader see kindness becoming provision, welcome, and a continuing place within the king's household rather than remaining an unfulfilled intention.

Remember: Kindness can become a dependable place at the table, not only a friendly greeting.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Land Restored and a Place at the Table



2 Samuel 9:1-13

Mephibosheth bowed and spoke of himself in a very lowly way, wondering why the king should notice him. His words show the difference between how he presented himself and the welcome David offered. A reader does not have to adopt his harsh description as the truth about his worth. David's response had already made a place for him, and the next instructions would put the promised restoration into practical effect.

David called Ziba and told him that everything belonging to Saul and his household had been given to Jonathan's son. Ziba, his sons, and his servants were to work the land and bring in its produce, providing food. Mephibosheth himself would continue to eat at David's table. The promise about land therefore included people assigned to manage its harvest, rather than leaving him with an announcement and no arrangement for the work.

Ziba agreed to do what the king commanded. Mephibosheth ate at the royal table like one of the king's sons. The account also tells us that he had a young son named Mica and that Ziba's household served him. He lived in Jerusalem because of his continuing place at David's table. The welcome was repeated through ordinary meals, not limited to the day on which he first came before the king.

The closing verse again mentions Mephibosheth's feet. His disability has not disappeared. No healing is described, and no special achievement is required before he can be included. His place at the table and the restored property stand alongside that unchanged fact. David's kindness honors the connection with Jonathan through tangible care for his son. The passage ends with continued belonging, helping readers notice that welcome does not depend on making everyone physically the same.

Pause and think: What could turn a kind invitation into a place where someone can comfortably belong?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Notice What Makes a Welcome Usable



Imagine inviting someone to a group meal. A spoken invitation is one part of welcome. Seating, a clear path, food people can eat, and time to participate may matter too. Ask an adult how your group can learn what someone needs without guessing or making them explain private information in front of everyone. This is a present-day example of practical inclusion, not another scene at David's table.

A person with a disability is a whole person with relationships, interests, and choices. Mephibosheth is Jonathan's son and Mica's father, not only a description of feet. Think about how you introduce people. Their name and what they want others to know are better starting points than a label that reduces them to one visible difference or difficulty.

David's promise is supported by arrangements for land and meals. Choose an ordinary promise you can keep, such as including a classmate in a shared activity. What preparation would make it real? Perhaps you need to explain the rules, find enough materials, or ask what part they would enjoy. Kindness becomes more useful when it has a next step.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

David honors Jonathan through ongoing welcome and practical provision for Mephibosheth, whose disability remains part of his life.

What could turn a kind invitation into a place where someone can comfortably belong?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. Whose son was Mephibosheth?

2. What two kinds of provision did David promise?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Work is arranged, and Mephibosheth eats at the royal table.
- ☐ David asks about Jonathan’s surviving family.
- ☐ David promises Mephibosheth land and ongoing welcome.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw an accessible table setting that shows a lasting welcome, without trying to depict a miraculous healing.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

Kindness can become a dependable place at the table, not only a friendly greeting.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: 2 Samuel 9:7-13

A thoughtful conversation

Use Mephibosheth's name and personhood rather than making disability his entire identity. The passage describes no healing; his welcome and provision do not depend on one. Explain his harsh self-description gently without endorsing it. David's care includes restored land, assigned agricultural work, and repeated meals, providing concrete examples of belonging.

Activity answers

1. He was Jonathan's son and Saul's grandson.
2. Restored land and a regular place at the king's table.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

If you wish: God, help me make welcome practical and respect each person as they are.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on 2 Samuel 9:1-13. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration © Sweet Publishing; 10_2Sa_09_05_RG.jpg. CC BY-SA 3.0. Source: unfoldingWord. Resized proportionally, without cropping.
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