



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.

[Vv. 1–5 King David kept his promise. It took effort on his part to find any of Saul's remaining family members.]

**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."

[Vv. 6–7 Mephibosheth might have feared the king who conquered Saul.]

**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 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.

[Vv. 9–12 Instead of hurting Mephibosheth, David honored him for the rest of his life.]

## What I Have Learned

Unscramble the words. Then, retell today's Scripture using these unscrambled words.

1. **viadd** \_\_\_\_\_
2. **luas** \_\_\_\_\_

3. **biaz** \_\_\_\_\_
4. **nojanaht** \_\_\_\_\_
5. **phmeobihtehs** \_\_\_\_\_
6. **nikdssen** \_\_\_\_\_
7. **tae** \_\_\_\_\_

## Keep In Mind

*"David asked, 'Is there anyone still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan's sake?'"*

(2 Samuel 9:1, NIV).

## Choosing What's Best

Sometimes people make promises without seriously thinking. Other promises are more intentional, like marriage vows, adoption, baptism, or other pledges.

Answer these questions about your experiences with promises.

Name a promise you made, or a promise someone made to you: \_\_\_\_\_

Was the promise kept? Circle: Yes or No

What is the value (or importance) of keeping promises? \_\_\_\_\_

Based on today's Scripture, what will you think about the next time you make a promise? \_\_\_\_\_

## Doing My Part

How can you show compassion and kindness like the twins did in today's story? How can you fulfill promises you already made as David did? In the space below, print the names of people to whom you will intentionally show kindness or fulfill overdue promises this week. Explain what you will do.

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