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As we reflect on 2 Samuel 4:4, let us approach God with our wounds and vulnerabilities, acknowledging that in our brokenness, He is near. Perhaps there are aspects of our lives that feel paralyzed by fear, shame, or regret. Like Mephibosheth, we may be carrying labels placed upon us by others or by our own perceptions. It is crucial, in our spiritual maturation, to redefine ourselves in terms of God's love and promises, rather than our past failures or present fears.

In conclusion, the story of Mephibosheth in the aftermath of great tragedy teaches us about grace, redemption, and the transformative power of God. Even when we find ourselves broken, we have the opportunity to be embraced by the One who sees our true potential. May we, like David, extend kindness and recognition to those who feel lesser than they truly are. Let us all acknowledge that often, in our weakest moments, God is crafting masterpieces hidden within our brokenness.

Lift Up in Prayer

Pray for the leaders of the world as they navigate complex challenges with wisdom, courage, and peace; Archie's recovery from surgery, asking for healing, strength, and comfort; Yu Bedwell's uncle as he undergoes cancer treatment, asking for endurance, effective care, and God's peace; David's four children, that they would grow in salvation, faith, and obedience; Alondra and her pregnancy, asking for health, protection, and success throughout this journey; Jacinth's recovery from her previous operation; Jonathan's wife as she undergoes chemotherapy; Caleb and Carissa Pierce as they enter a new season as long-term caregivers for a sweet baby boy they are calling Beau; Jim as he departs the Army and transitions into the civilian sector; Isaiah Whalen has found a ministry role; God would strengthen and unite Western Hills Christian Church; Jason R. Tucker's recovery after an assault by a motorcycle club, asking for physical healing, emotional strength, and protection; Robert Medlock's family, asking for spiritual strength, unity, and peace; May God give the Michaelis family and Stanley (her husband) comfort, strength, and peace as they grieve Nancy's loss. We pray they find solace in cherished memories, feel the warm embrace of community support, and experience a gentle peace to carry them through the difficult days ahead. In Jesus' name, Amen.

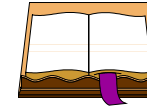
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday Bible Study 10:00

Sunday Worship 11:00

Camp Humphreys Pacific

Victors Chapel (Sanctuary)



Wednesday Bible Study 18:30

Camp Humphreys Pacific

Victors Chapel

Rooms: 143 (Adults)

164 (Children)

October 11, 2026

No. 476

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:31)

Unseen Blessings in Brokenness

By Francis Schaeffer

The story of Mephibosheth, as recounted in 2 Samuel 4:4, offers profound insights into the nature of grace, identity, and the divine purpose that often unfolds from our brokenness: "And Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son that was lame of his feet. He was five years old when the tidings came of Saul and Jonathan out of Jezreel, and his nurse took him up, and fled: and it came to pass, as she made haste to flee, that he fell, and became lame. And his name was Mephibosheth."

At its surface, this passage narrates a tragic event that befell a child during a time of great turmoil in Israel. The death of Saul and Jonathan meant that young Mephibosheth, the last surviving grandson of King Saul, was marked for potential violence and danger. In an effort to protect him, the panic of the moment led to an accident that changed the trajectory of his life. This moment—a hurried escape—led to a condition that would stigmatize him for years to come. He became known as "the lame one," a label that would cling to him long after the dust of that tragic day had settled.

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Mephibosheth's story is foundational in understanding how we often view ourselves and how God views us. His narrative invites us to consider that while external circumstances dictate our social standings, they do not define our value in the eyes of God. From the moment he was struck with lameness, Mephibosheth was thrust into a difficult existence, one marked by shame, isolation, and perhaps even bitterness. He became a metaphor for brokenness, representing those in society who feel marginalized or unworthy of grace and acceptance.

In this unfolding of events, we are reminded that brokenness is a universal human experience. Each of us carries wounds—some visible, others not so much. It is in these moments of vulnerability and need that God often works most profoundly. Psalm 34:18 (KJV) reminds us, "The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit." This promise asserts that brokenness is not a signal of abandonment from God but rather a place where His presence can be most deeply felt.

Moreover, the name Mephibosheth itself carries significant weight. It means "the destroyer of shame." What a beautiful irony! The child who became a picture of disgrace ultimately held a name that promised redemption. This paradox speaks volumes about God's redemptive plans. Just as the name suggests, God often takes those who feel shamed and transforms their narratives into stories of glory and restoration. Mephibosheth would later receive kindness from King David—not as an outcast, but as a beloved recipient of grace and favor.

David's covenant with Jonathan, Mephibosheth's father, exemplifies the steadfast love and loyalty that should characterize our relationships with others. It challenges us to look beyond appearances and see the inherent worth in everyone. When we offer grace, we are acting as conduits of divine love in a fragmented world. We, too, can help carry the burdens of the broken and usher them into places of healing. **(Continue page 4)**



Notes:

CONTACTS

Bulletin/Directory

Contact:

Tim Lane

Cell Number:

010-8212-8423

Email:

tdlane1954@gmail.com

Totals for

October 4, 2026

Attendance:

37

Contribution:

720.00 Dollars

118,000 KRW