



The Table

2 Samuel 9

Have you ever been a part of starting a new church? How was that experience? Challenging, enjoyable?

Mark said, "Research statistics show: new churches bring more non-Christians, un-churched and de-churched people through their doors than established churches." Why do you think un-churched people are more willing to go to a new church rather than an established one?

What is significant in the story of David and Mephibosheth to you?

David shows kindness to Mephibosheth in three ways:

- Honoring the covenant with Jonathan
- Restoring the land of Saul to Mephibosheth
- Eating at his table always

How do these things demonstrate *hesed* love?

Henri Nouwen defined hospitality this way: "Hospitality means primarily the creation of a free space where the stranger can enter and become a friend instead of an enemy." How can you practice this in your everyday life?

What's the greatest party you've ever been to? What's the greatest meal you've ever had?

Mark said, "I believe Christians should be known as the ones who throw the best parties! We have so much to celebrate, and yet that is not often our reputation." Agree or disagree. Why?

What holds you back from Jesus' invitation to His table? What holds you back from inviting others?