

Rewriting the Story – Mephibosheth



Sometimes we have to help others rewrite their story.

Bring them to the Table

Luke 14:16 - 24

Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor, and the maimed, and the lame, and the blind.

Vs17 "Come for all is now ready"

In other words, "Bring them to the table!"

(Alternate Version of Luke 14)

Jesus wanted to have some time with his friends, so he organised a meal & made a few calls asking them if they could spend some time together. But the first one said he couldn't take the time because he'd just moved to a bigger house & he & his wife had to work every hour they could just to afford the mortgage repayments but he was sure that Jesus would understand as it was obviously such a good investment for the future.

The second one also said he couldn't come as he also had been blessed with a new job & it simply demanded all his time, but, hey, it's obvious to everyone what a blessed man he is.

A third friend added to Jesus' disappointment by telling him how he had so many family commitments that those consumed all the spare time he had. But Jesus still wanted to find some who might enjoy his company so he decided to invite a few more folk in the hope that somewhere somebody would be able to spare some time for him.



Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.



Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

2 Samuel 4:4

Jonathan son of Saul had a son who was lame in both feet. He was five years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel. His nurse picked him up and fled, but as she hurried to leave, he fell and became crippled. His name was Mephibosheth.

2 Samuel 9

The king asked, "Is there no one still left of 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 crippled in both feet." "Where is he?" the king asked. Ziba answered, "He is at the house of Makir son of Ammiel in Lo Debar."

So King David had him brought from Lo Debar, from the house of Makir son of Ammiel. When Mephibosheth son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, came to David, he bowed down to pay him honor. David said, "Mephibosheth!" "Your servant," he replied. "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." Mephibosheth bowed down and said, "What is your servant, that you should notice a dead dog like me?" Then the king summoned Ziba, Saul's servant, and said to him, "I have given your master's grandson everything that belonged to Saul and his family. 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.) 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. Mephibosheth had a young son named Mica, and all the members of Ziba's household were servants of Mephibosheth. And Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, because he always ate at the king's table, and he was crippled in both feet.

1. The Table is ready

ie. - it has had some work put into it.

- *a place where all the senses are involved. (feels, looks, sounds, smells, touches good.*
- *a place where everyone is welcome.*
- *a place where everyone is family.*
- *a place of acceptance*
- *a place of rest & peace*
- *a place of joy & laughter*
- *a place of abundance*
- *a place of refreshment*
- *a place of anticipation*
- *a place of conversation & catching up on the news*

2. Some cannot come

(cf. 2 Samuel 4:4)

Something happened to them.

They have been dropped & somebody dropped them.

It might have been a bad experience, a disappointment, any number of things. Some might have come in the past, perhaps as a child but no longer. Some might feel unworthy, ashamed, too poor, despised, etc.

3. We have to carry them

John 1:40-42

Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ).

And he brought him to Jesus.

John 4: 39-44

Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. And because of his words many more became believers. They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world."