



**Real People Attempt  
To Keep Their Word**

## 2 Samuel 9:1–13 (NKJV)

1 Now David said, “Is there still anyone who is left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan’s sake?”

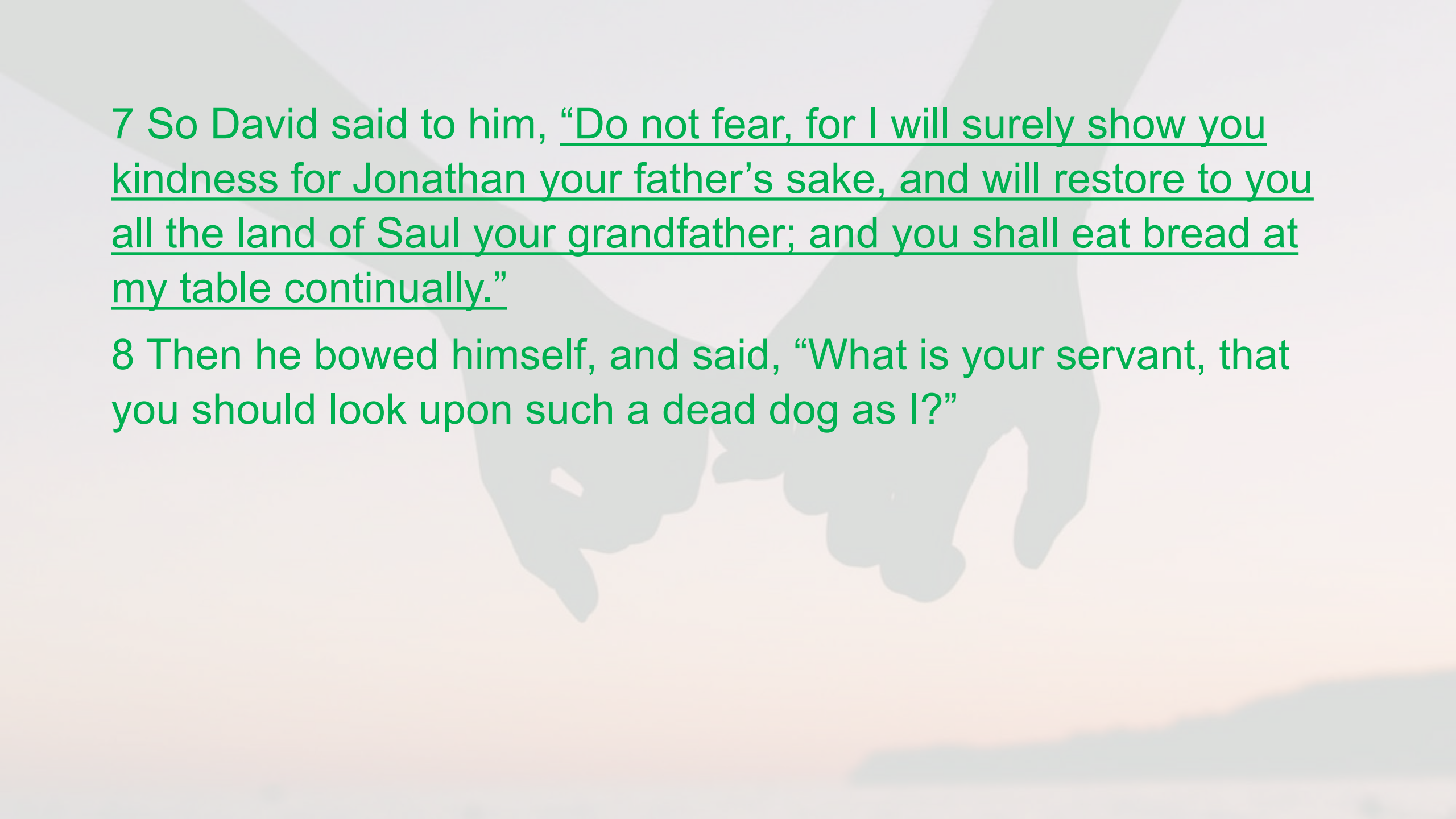
2 And there was a servant of the house of Saul whose name was Ziba. So when they had called him to David, the king said to him, “Are you Ziba?” He said, “At your service!”

3 Then the king said, “Is there not still someone of the house of Saul, to whom I may show the kindness of God?” And Ziba said to the king, “There is still a son of Jonathan who is lame in his feet.”

4 So the king said to him, “Where is he?” And Ziba said to the king, “Indeed he is in the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, in Lo Debar.”

5 Then King David sent and brought him out of the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, from Lo Debar.

6 Now when Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, had come to David, he fell on his face and prostrated himself. Then David said, “Mephibosheth?” And he answered, “Here is your servant!”



7 So David said to him, “Do not fear, for I will surely show you kindness for Jonathan your father’s sake, and will restore to you all the land of Saul your grandfather; and you shall eat bread at my table continually.”

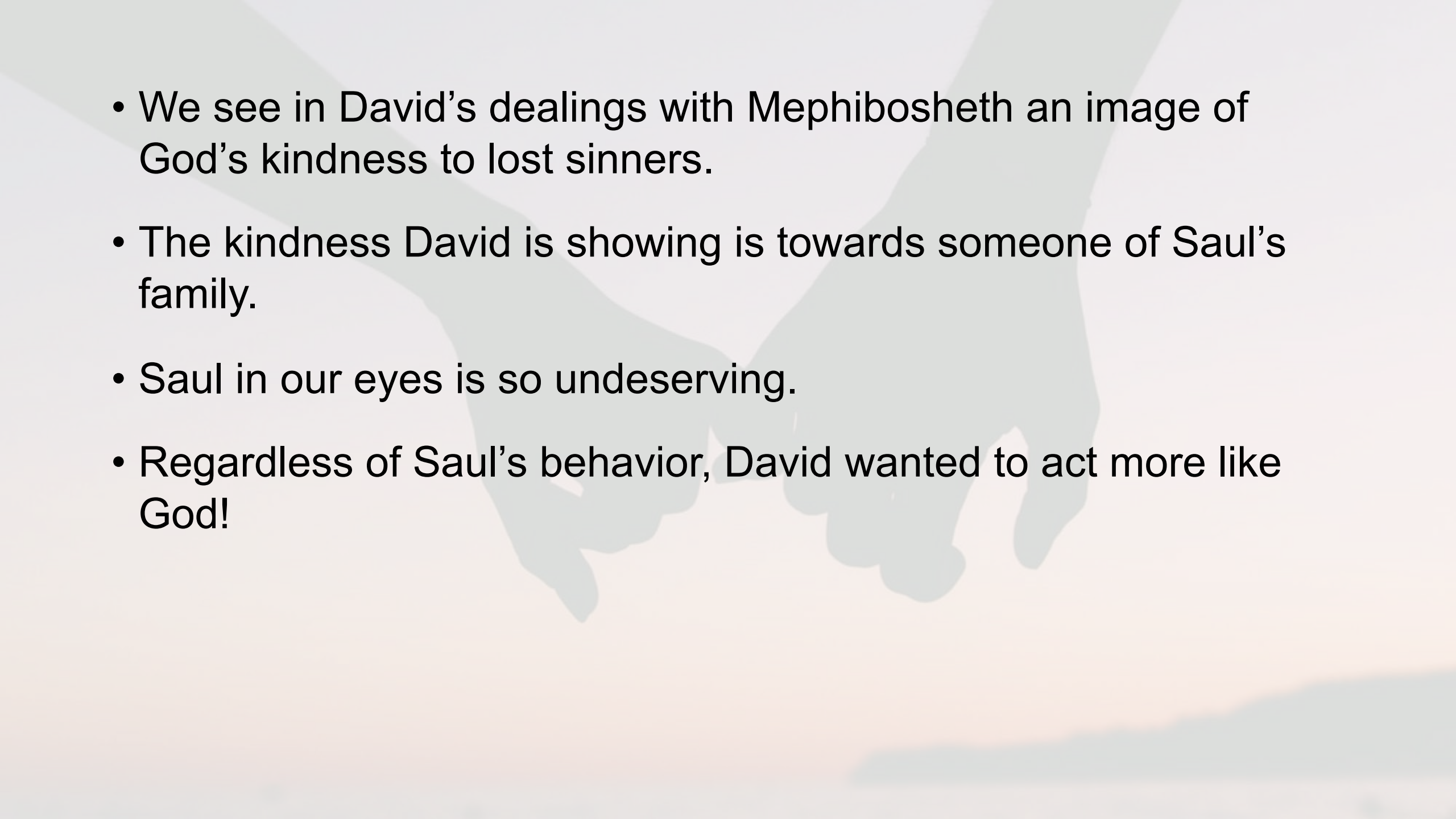
8 Then he bowed himself, and said, “What is your servant, that you should look upon such a dead dog as I?”

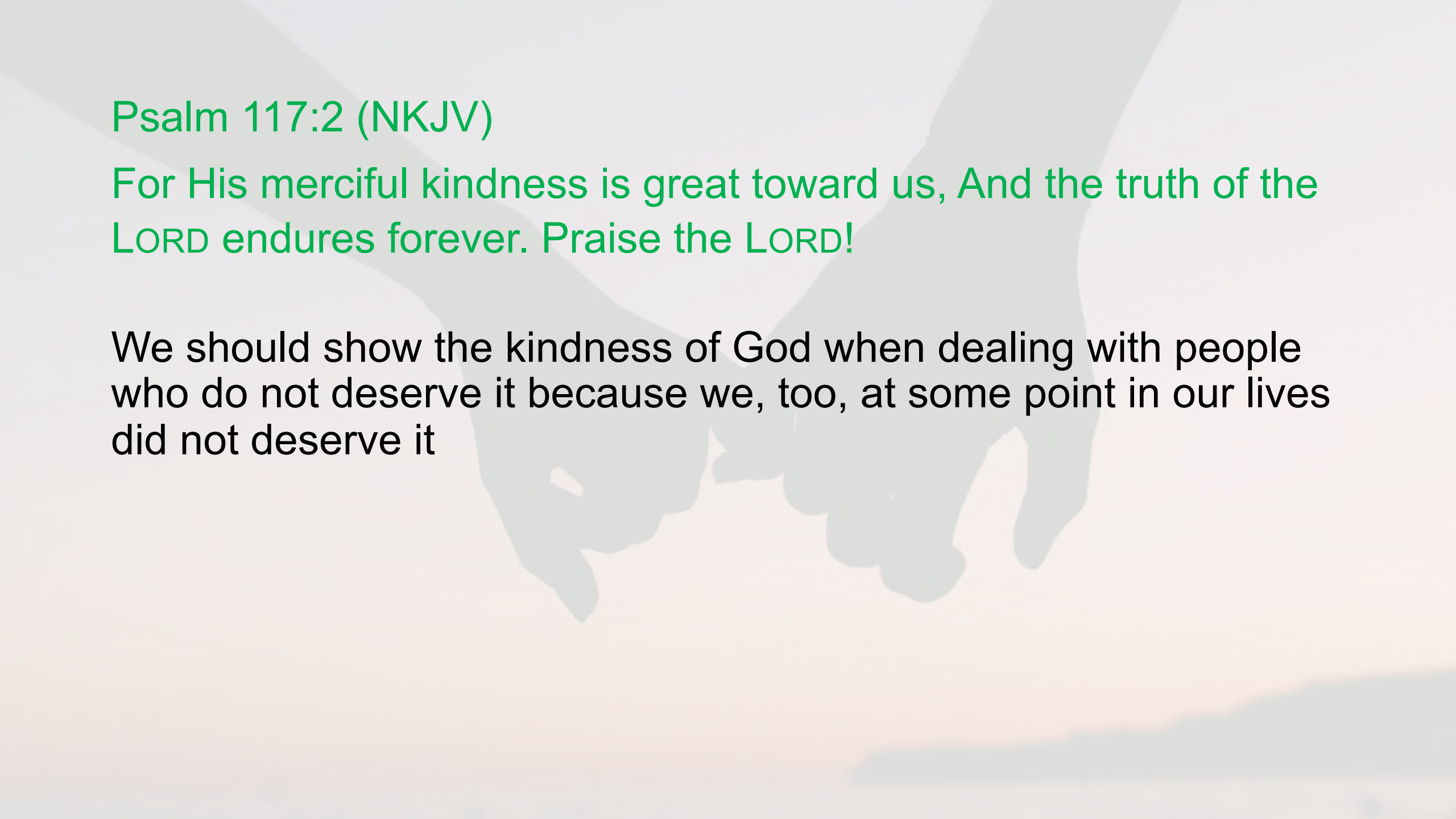
# 1. Real People Of God Have A Desire To Display The Kindness Of God.

## 2 Samuel 9:1 (NKJV)

Now David said, “Is there still anyone who is left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan’s sake?”

The kindness of God” means the mercy and favor of the Lord to undeserving people.

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- A faint, light-colored background image showing two hands clasped together in a supportive grip, set against a soft, blurred landscape of hills and water under a pale sky.
- We see in David's dealings with Mephibosheth an image of God's kindness to lost sinners.
  - The kindness David is showing is towards someone of Saul's family.
  - Saul in our eyes is so undeserving.
  - Regardless of Saul's behavior, David wanted to act more like God!



Psalm 117:2 (NKJV)

For His merciful kindness is great toward us, And the truth of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!

We should show the kindness of God when dealing with people who do not deserve it because we, too, at some point in our lives did not deserve it

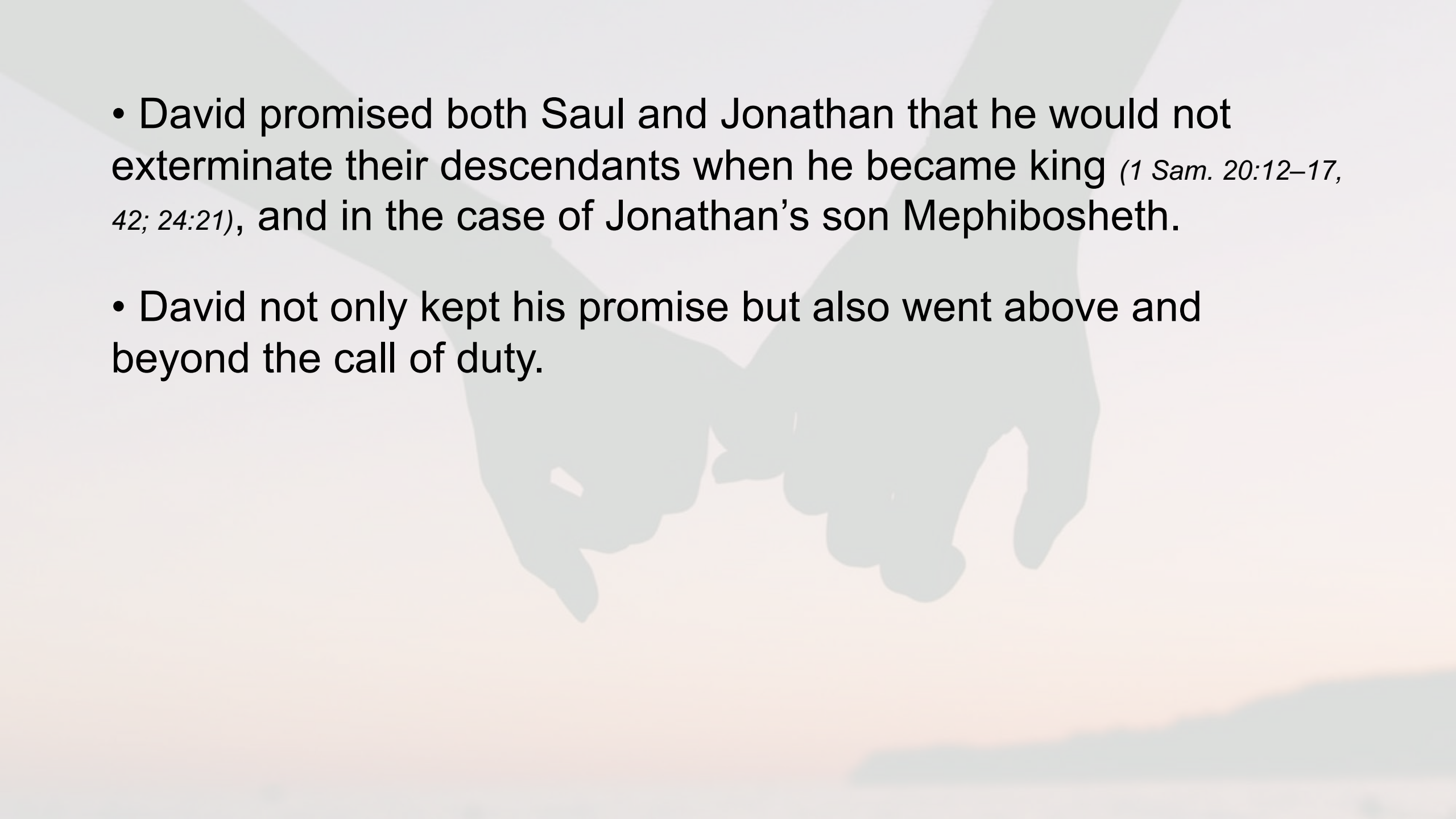
- Kindness - In general, one may identify three underlying meanings of the word, which always interact: “strength,” “steadfastness,” and “love.”
- Any understanding of the word that fails to suggest all three inevitably loses some of its richness.
- “Love” by itself quickly becomes sentimentalized or universalized apart from the covenant.
- “Strength” or “steadfastness” suggests only the fulfillment of a legal or other obligation.

• W. E. Vine, Merrill F. Unger, and William White Jr., [Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words](#) (Nashville, TN: T. Nelson, 1996), 142.



- This section is built on the foundation of covenant faithfulness.
- Covenant – 1 a usually formal, solemn, and binding agreement: compact: 2 a: a written agreement or promise typically under seal between two or more parties especially for the performance of some action

- Inc Merriam-Webster, [Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary](#). (Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster, Inc., 2003).

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- A faint, light-colored background image of two hands clasped together, symbolizing support or agreement. The hands are positioned centrally, with fingers interlaced. The background is a soft, light blue and white gradient.
- David promised both Saul and Jonathan that he would not exterminate their descendants when he became king (*1 Sam. 20:12–17, 42; 24:21*), and in the case of Jonathan's son Mephibosheth.
  - David not only kept his promise but also went above and beyond the call of duty.

## 2. Real People Of God Manage Negativity With Grace.

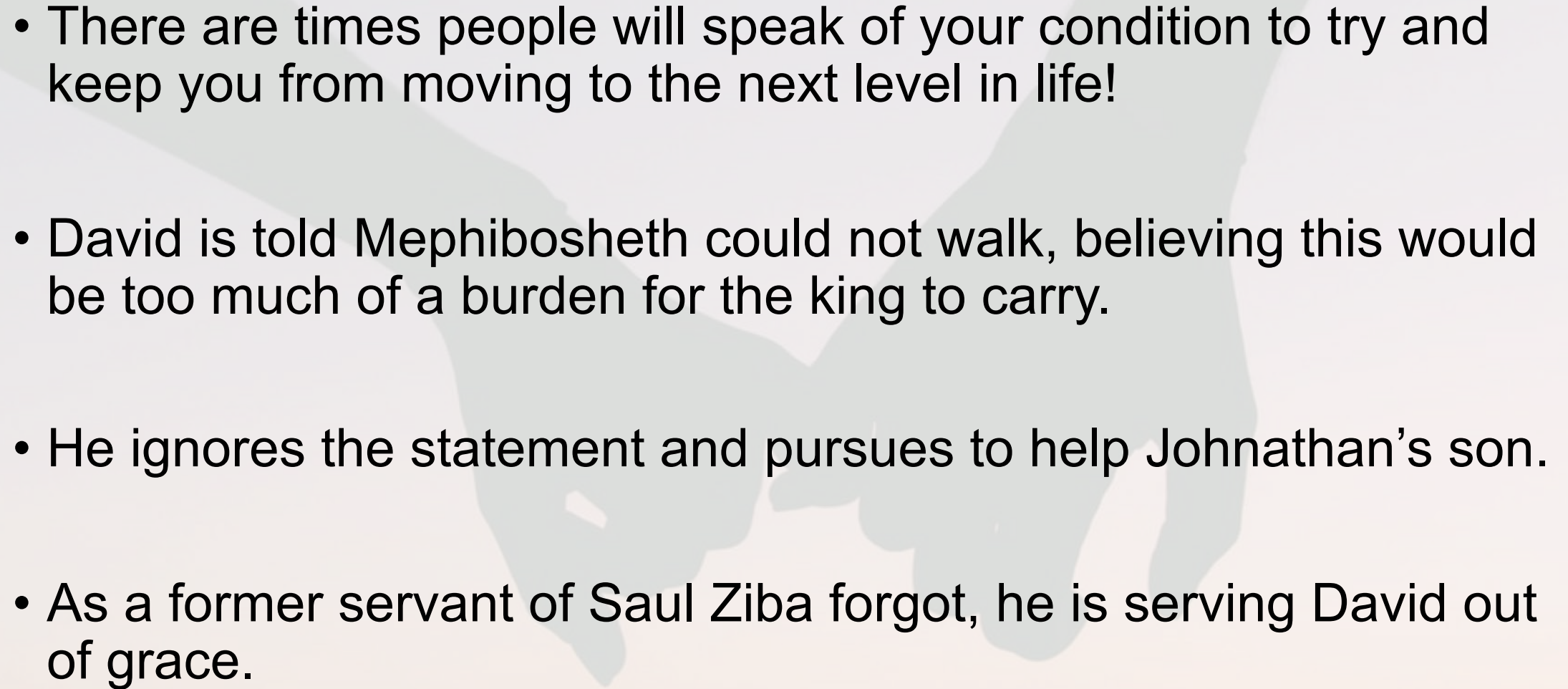
2 Samuel 9:2–4 (NKJV)

2 And there was a servant of the house of Saul whose name was Ziba. So when they had called him to David, the king said to him, “Are you Ziba?” He said, “At your service!”

## 2. Real People Of God Manage Negativity With Grace.

3 Then the king said, “Is there not still someone of the house of Saul, to whom I may show the kindness of God?” And Ziba said to the king, “There is still a son of Jonathan who is lame in his feet.”

4 So the king said to him, “Where is he?” And Ziba said to the king, “Indeed he is in the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, in Lo Debar.”

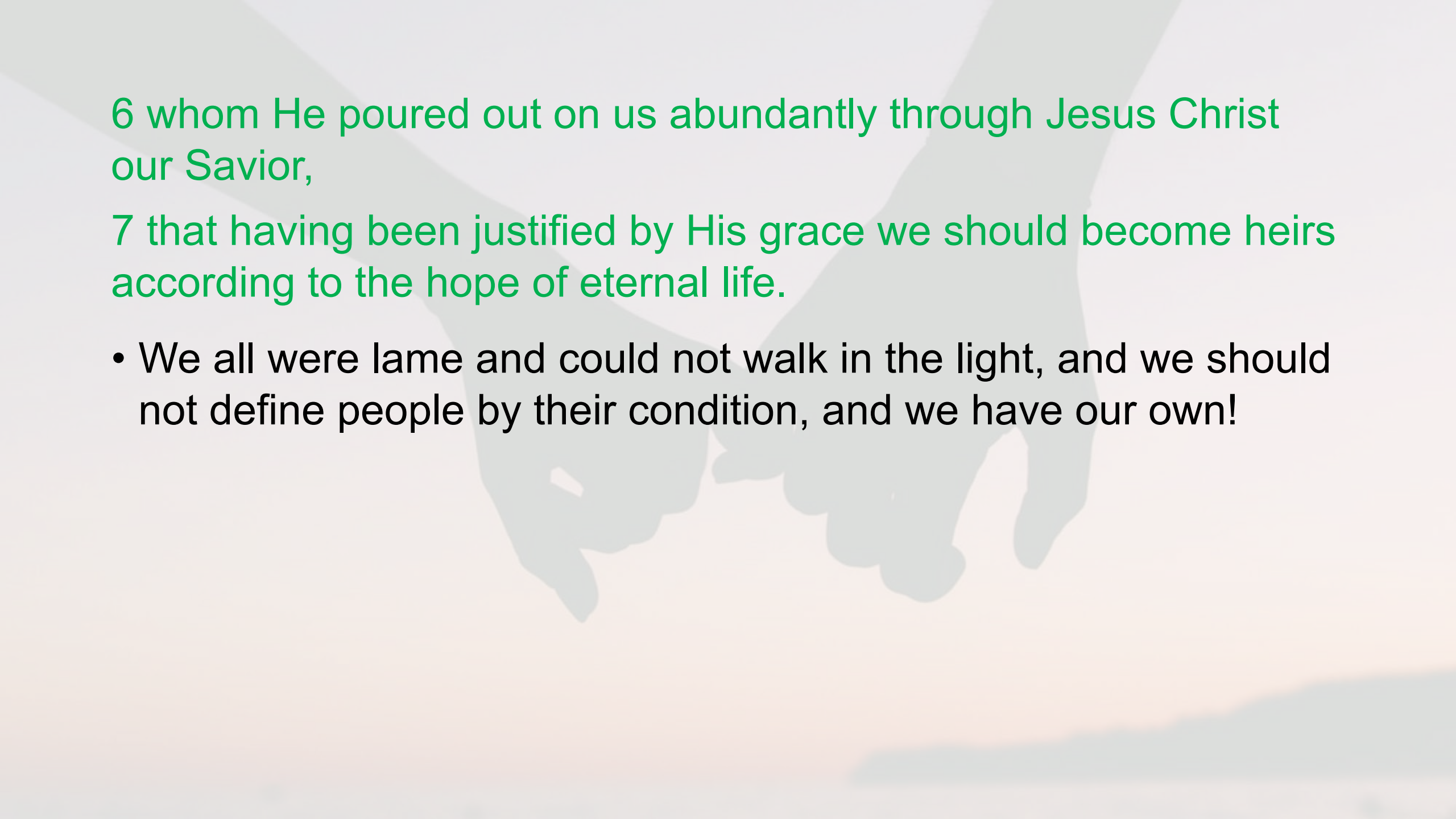
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- There are times people will speak of your condition to try and keep you from moving to the next level in life!
  - David is told Mephibosheth could not walk, believing this would be too much of a burden for the king to carry.
  - He ignores the statement and pursues to help Johnathan's son.
  - As a former servant of Saul Ziba forgot, he is serving David out of grace.

## Titus 3:3–7 (NKJV)

3 For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another.

4 But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared,

5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,



6 whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

7 that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

- We all were lame and could not walk in the light, and we should not define people by their condition, and we have our own!

# 3. Real People Of God Use Their Influence To Bring Others Out Of A Low Place.

## 2 Samuel 9:5 (NKJV)

Then King David sent and brought him out of the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, from Lo Debar.

*LO-DEBAR. A place in Gilead where Machir lived and where Mephibosheth stayed after Jonathan's death, also called Debir.*

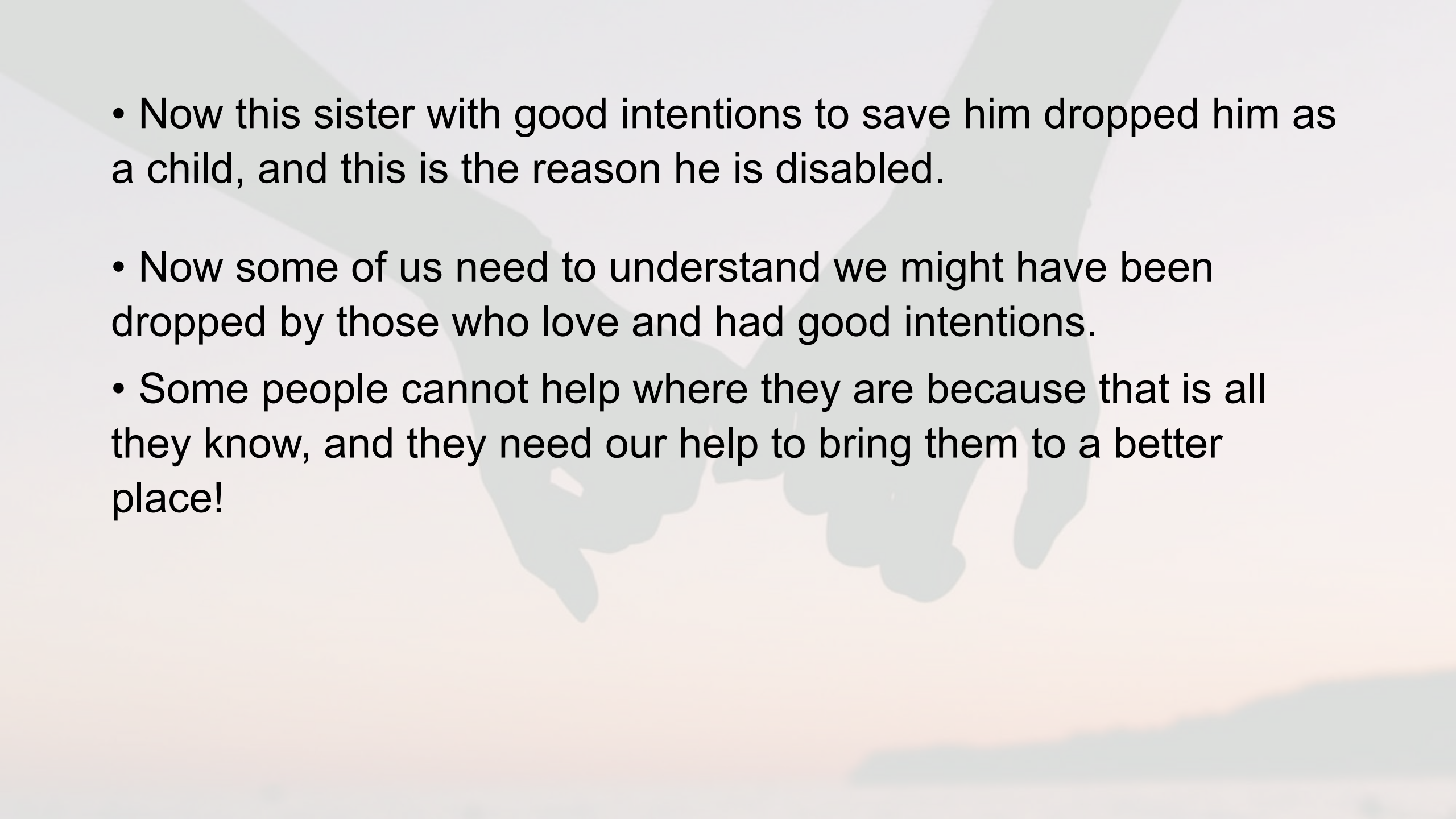
- It is not much of a city, but it has been a safe place for years for this man with a disability!

- Charles F. Pfeiffer, Howard Frederic Vos, and John Rea, [The Wycliffe Bible Encyclopedia](#) (Moody Press, 1975).



## 2 Samuel 4:4 (NKJV)

Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son who was lame in his feet. He was five years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel; and his nurse took him up and fled. And it happened, as she made haste to flee, that he fell and became lame. His name was Mephibosheth.

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- Now this sister with good intentions to save him dropped him as a child, and this is the reason he is disabled.
  - Now some of us need to understand we might have been dropped by those who love and had good intentions.
  - Some people cannot help where they are because that is all they know, and they need our help to bring them to a better place!

## Romans 15:1–2 (NKJV)

1 We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

2 Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification.

- We are to help others come out of the low places.
- We don't judge them; we help them!
- He sent men to get him. He used his influence to bring him up not to keep him down.

# 4. Real People Of God Comfort Others Through The Spirit Of Humility.

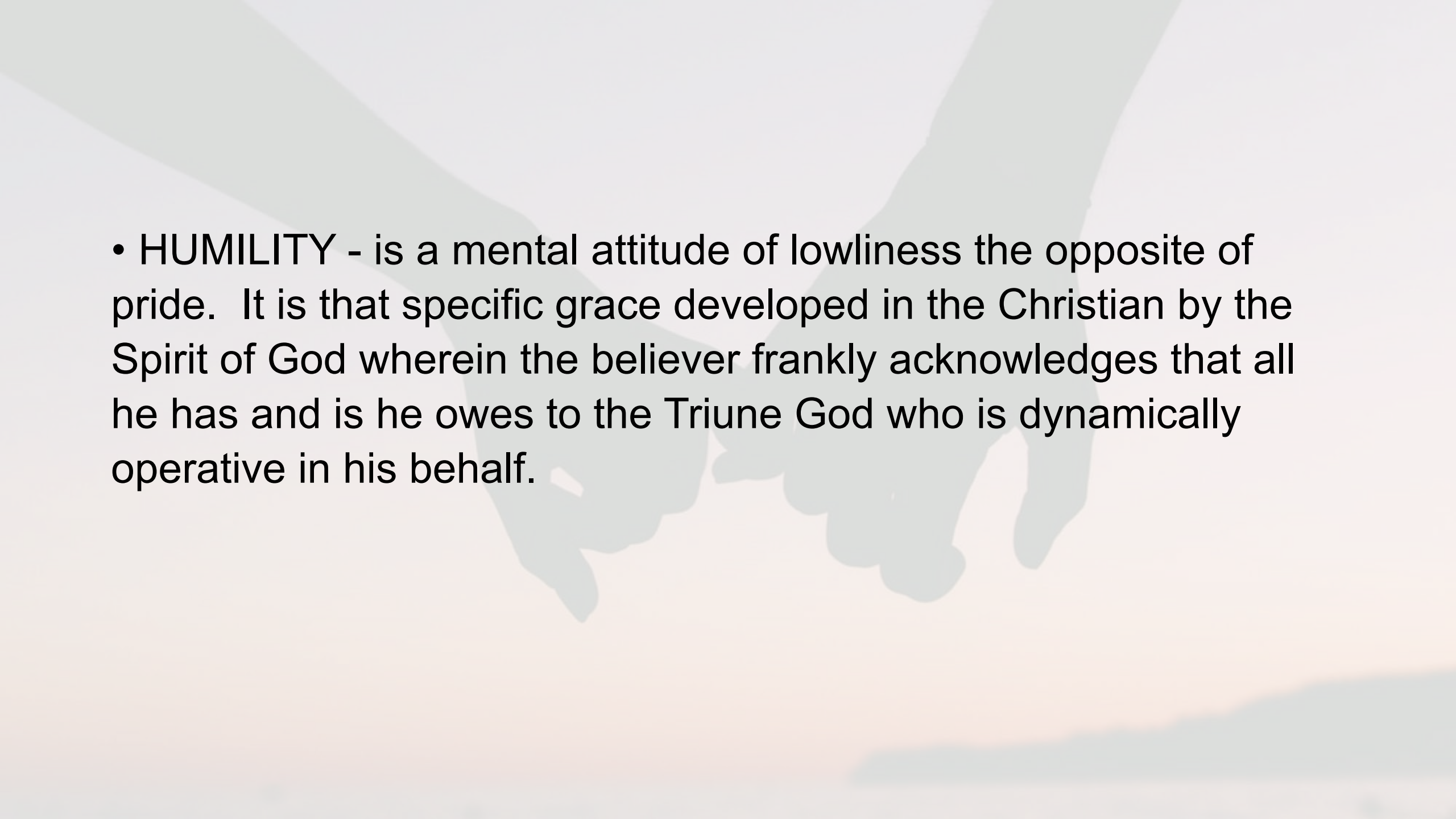
## 2 Samuel 9:6–8 (NKJV)

6 Now when Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, had come to David, he fell on his face and prostrated himself. Then David said, “Mephibosheth?” And he answered, “Here is your servant!”

## 4. Real People Of God Comfort Others Through The Spirit Of Humility.

7 So David said to him, “Do not fear, for I will surely show you kindness for Jonathan your father’s sake, and will restore to you all the land of Saul your grandfather; and you shall eat bread at my table continually.”

8 Then he bowed himself, and said, “What is your servant, that you should look upon such a dead dog as I?”

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- **HUMILITY** - is a mental attitude of lowliness the opposite of pride. It is that specific grace developed in the Christian by the Spirit of God wherein the believer frankly acknowledges that all he has and is he owes to the Triune God who is dynamically operative in his behalf.

- The Heb. term אָנָוָה (from אָנָה “be afflicted”) implies that humility of spirit often results from affliction.
- Surely David knew what it was like to live in hiding, and surely David knew what it is like to be afflicted when you don’t deserve it!
- Now when it looks around, and he knows what God has done for him, He desires the same thing for Mephibosheth.

• Frederic R. Howe, [“Humility.”](#) ed. Charles F. Pfeiffer, Howard F. Vos, and John Rea, The Wycliffe Bible Encyclopedia (Moody Press, 1975).

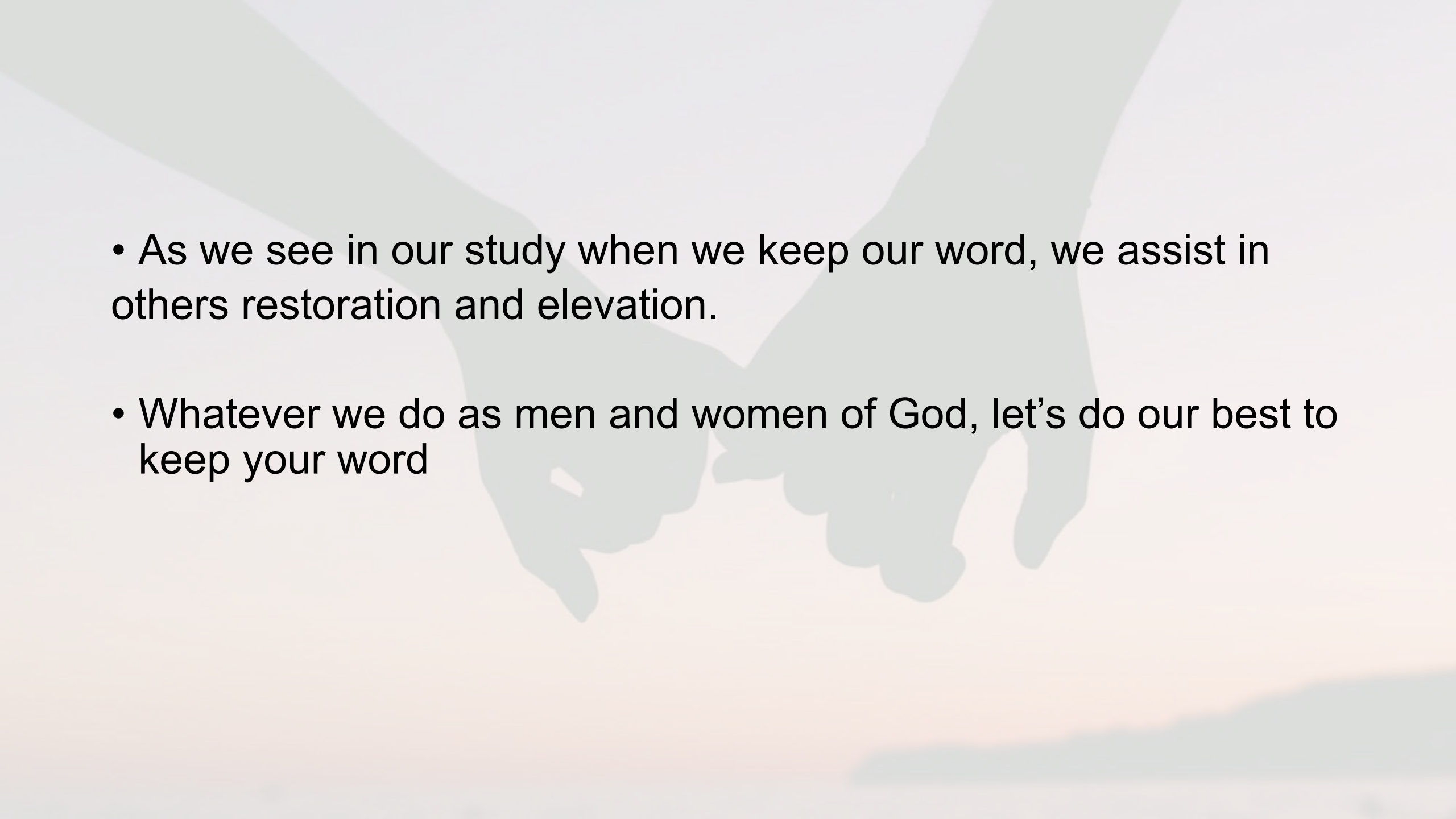
- He commands Mephibosheth not to be afraid!

## **Proverbs 3:34** (NKJV)

Surely He scorns the scornful, But gives grace to the humble.

- David could respond in humility because he knows what God has done for him!



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- A faint, light-colored background image showing two hands clasped together in a supportive grip. The hands are positioned centrally, with the fingers interlaced. The background is a soft, out-of-focus sunset or sunrise scene with warm orange and yellow tones near the horizon and a pale blue sky above. The overall mood is one of care, support, and commitment.
- As we see in our study when we keep our word, we assist in others restoration and elevation.
  - Whatever we do as men and women of God, let's do our best to keep your word