

SEEKING GOD'S KINGDOM

2 SAMUEL 4:4, 9:1-13 (ESV)

Hesed is being _____ with people in a persistent and generous way, like you might with _____.

I. In David's *hesed* toward Mephibosheth, we see a beautiful picture of God's- _____ love for us.

As soon as [David] had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. And Saul took [David] that day and would not let him return to his father's house. Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul.

1 Samuel 18:1-3 (ESV)

"... May Yahweh be with you, as he has been with my father. If I am still alive, show me the steadfast love [hesed] of Yahweh, that I may not die; and do not cut off your steadfast love from my house forever, when Yahweh cuts off every one of the enemies of David from the face of the earth." And Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, "May Yahweh take vengeance on David's enemies." ... Then Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, because we have sworn both of us in the name of Yahweh, saying, 'Yahweh shall be between me and you, and between my offspring and your offspring, forever.'"

1 Samuel 20:13c-16, 42a-c (ESV)

A. The love of Ruth, David, and God are all rooted in covenant _____ – *hesed* is covenant love!

B. God loves you...

1. Even though you were once His _____...
2. Despite your _____ ...
3. Because of a promise He made to the royal _____.

C. Because the royal Son died the death of a traitor, the Father grants us the Son's _____ and _____ in God's family.

II. We should imitate God's covenant love in the covenantal relationships that we _____.

A. You have a covenant obligation to love your _____ in this way.

1. When you find the covenant love of God more _____ than any other love, then you'll be in the right space to love your spouse with *hesed*.

B. You have a covenant obligation to love your _____ in this way.

C. You have a covenant obligation to love other Christians in this way, especially the ones in your _____.

D. These are the question you should be asking about these three groups of people: are you loving these people...

1. With your _____?

2. With _____?

3. With _____ and inclusion?

4. _____?

5. Like family?

III. As the Spirit directs us, we should imitate God's covenant love toward anyone _____ to _____ with us in meaningful covenant relationships.