

UPSIDE DOWN GLORY



Small Group Questions

Message: “The Forgotten at the Table.”

Speaker: Pastor Dave

Sermon series: Upside Down Glory

Date: January 25, 2026

Text: 2 Sam 9, Lk 14:12-14

1. **First impressions:** What part of John Merrick’s story or Mephibosheth’s story stayed with you the most, and why?
2. **Seeing and being seen:** Both men were “noticed” after long seasons of being overlooked. When have you felt truly seen by someone? How did that affect you?
3. **Fear and invitation:** Mephibosheth approached David expecting judgment, not grace. Why do you think it’s often hard for people to believe they are genuinely welcome—by others or even by God?
4. **Chesed and grace:** David shows *chesed*—kindness that is undeserved and cannot be repaid. How does this deepen or challenge your understanding of grace?
5. **The table image:** What does it mean to you that Mephibosheth “always ate at the king’s table” like one of the king’s sons? How does this shape how you view your identity in Christ?
6. **Luke 14 connection:** Jesus says the kingdom banquet is filled with the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame. Why do you think Jesus intentionally centers His kingdom around those the world overlooks?
7. **Hidden Lo-Debars:** Lo-Debar was a place of isolation and barrenness. What might be some modern-day “Lo-Debars” people find themselves living in today—emotionally, socially, or spiritually?
8. **From pity to dignity:** This sermon emphasizes dignity over pity. How can Christians unintentionally slip into pity instead of honoring people as image-bearers? What’s the difference?
9. **Our tables today:** When you think about your own “table” (your home, church, friendships, routines), who might be missing—and why?
10. **Next step obedience:** What is one concrete way this week you could reflect God’s *chesed*—by noticing, welcoming, or including someone who might otherwise be overlooked?

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