# **Read 2 Samuel 3:1-21** (1) What happened in the long war between the house of David and the house of Saul? (a) David's grew stronger and Saul's grew weaker (b)Saul's grew stronger and David's grew weaker (c)Both were equally as strong and the war was at a stalemate (d)None of the above (2) What are the names of the six sons born to David in Hebron? (3) According to verse 10, what was the Lord planning to do for David? (4) In agreeing to have a face to face meeting with Abner what one thing did David ask of him, prior to agreeing to the meeting? (5) How many men feasted with David and Abner? (6) Following the feast, what did Abner plan to do when he left David? What Does it Mean? (2 Samuel 3:10) The phrase "over Israel and over Judah" shows the division that was

occurring among God's people. "Judah" refers to David's tribe and his followers. "Israel" here refers to the other tribes...



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| Abner's intentions for departing from him? (Hint- verses 24-25)             |
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| (8) Unknown to David, what did Joab do to Abner?                            |
| (9) What was the true reason behind Joab's pursuit of Abner? (Hintverse 30) |
| (10) What did David do when he heard of the death of Abner?                 |



# Did you Know?

Grief was a much more public emotion in ancient times than it is today. People demonstrated their feelings of loss and sadness by tearing their clothes, putting ashes or dust in their hair, and wearing really uncomfortable clothes called sack cloths (similar to a potato sack!). These outward signs were used both for mourning a death and for repenting of sin, and were often continued for several days









# Read 2 Samuel 4: 1-12

- (11) What were the names of the two captains of Saul's troops?
- (12a) What was the name of Jonathon's son?
- (12b) How did he come to be lame?
- (13) Why was David angry when the head of Ishbosheth was brought to him?



# **Character Profile: Mephibosheth**

David honoured and protected Mephibosheth out of respect for Jonathon. He guaranteed Mephibosheth's family property and welcomed the young man to the royal dining table. As we will read later, Mephibosheth was betrayed by his servant Ziba who convinced a fleeing David that Mephibosheth still held hopes of reclaiming the crown for his family. In his words of humble reconcilliation, Mephibosheth offers as fine an example of honesty and gratitude as found anywhere in the bible.

Lame as he was, Mephibosheth was dependant on others. Some, like Ziba, took advantage of him. Others, like David, respected him despite his limitations. Mephibosheth understood where gratitude was due. When he was accused he did everything he could to make the matter right and acted with dignity and integrity.

You may be frustrated by the limitations in your life. They come in all sizes and shapes. Some are physical, others are emotional, educational or social. As with Mephibosheth, limitations don't have to becomes excuses. In the very act of persisting in spite of your limitations, you will be an example to others. Your efforts will make a difference and remember, His strength is made perfect in your weakness!

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2 Samuel Ch 3-4 Crossword

#### **CLUES**

### Across

- 1) The Lord said ".....I will save my people \_\_\_\_\_ from the hand of the Philistines and all of their enemies"
- 5) The only survivor of Saul's family- the son of Jonathon

## **Down**

- 2) David said "as the lord lives who has redeemed my life from all
- 3) The first son born to David in Hebron
- 4) Saul's daughter who was also David's wife

