




# *The Church's Call to Adoption & Foster Care*



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## **What scripture has to say about foster care and adoption**

- We don't see the word "fostering" in the bible, but we do see the words fatherless and orphans
  - The theme of adoption is woven through the entire bible from beginning to end
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## Scripture References for the Fatherless & Orphans

- Deuteronomy 10:18
- Psalm 68:5-6
- Psalm 146:9
- Isaiah 1:17
- James 1:27

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- The gospel in its entirety is the ultimate story of adoption
- God saw us in our hard and broken places and moved towards us, not away from us
- Adoption is God's idea
- He created it to restore what sin had broken
- Before we consider adoption, we must first consider our own adoption

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## Scripture References For Adoption

- John 1:12
- Romans 8:15
- Ephesians 1:5
- 1 John 3:1

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- Our salvation brings about our adoption through Jesus' death on the cross
- The world is in desperate need of this same salvation
- God moves toward vulnerable, broken people, not away from them
- The gospel can be viewed more about God entering our broken stories, than pulling us out of them

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## Orphan and Foster Care Statistics

- **143,000-153,000** orphans worldwide
- **5,700** children become orphans every day
- A child ages out of the system every **2.2 seconds**
- **420,000** children in foster care
- Child enters foster care every **6.6 seconds**
- **20,000** youth age out every year
- **1 in 4** do not graduate/GED
- **Less than 3%** college degree
- **1/2** of homeless population are former foster youth
- **10-15%** of orphans commit suicide by age 18

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- Children belong in families
- Foster care is a church problem
- Orphan care is a gospel issue
- Orphan care is about obedience and expressing the heart of God
- Foster care and adoption can be seen as part of the Great Commission
- We are not all called to the same thing, but we can all do something
- It takes a Church to raise a child

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## Ways to Help

- Babysit
- Organize meals
- Plan baby showers/care packs
- Become a mentor
- Become a CASA
- Donate financially
- Pray

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## Welcoming a Child into your Home

- Fulfill the great commission in our homes
- Love 'em, feed 'em, teach them about Jesus
- Play a part in fixing something that is broken
  - Remembering only Jesus saves and restores
- Know it will be hard
- Get too attached
  - Love deeply and bravely

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## Before Beginning the Foster or Adoption Process

- Consider your Support System
  - Husband
  - Kids
  - Extended Family & Friends
- Research
- Pray
- Jump

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**Stop praying  
for clarity, and  
start praying  
for courage**

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