



Church Adoption Ministry Answering the Orphan's Cry

"If God loves me, why am I an orphan?"

"If you love me, why don't you adopt me?"

The Problems:

- Caring for widows and orphans in their distress is pure and undefiled religion. (Jas 1:27) but... an orphan's distress is not belonging to a family, and no matter how much we love and care for children in an orphanage - they are still orphans.
- Children just don't want to be orphans - they want to belong to a family.
- Belonging is in our DNA. Without belonging, most people don't feel loved.
- Without our love, most orphans have difficulty comprehending God's love.
- Most are woefully unprepared for life and have little hope for success.
- Most are easy targets for predators who lure them into crime, prostitution and sex slavery.
- Older orphans suffer disproportionately high rates of homelessness, incarceration and suicide.

Obstacles prevent many children from being adopted:

- God's heart for orphans and adoption as a ministry are rarely taught in the church.
- Most are unaware of the problems, and don't understand the need for adoption.
- Many families who are willing to adopt are deterred by the high cost of adoption.
- People with the means and willingness to help have no way to connect with families who need it.

What God has already done:

- God sent Jesus into the world, so that we might receive the adoption as sons. Gal 4:4-5, John 1:12
- God set the example by adopting us. Jesus set an example by paying for our adoption.
- God has called families in churches everywhere who are willing and eager to adopt.
- God has called many others who have the means, desire and willingness to help.

The Christian Response:

- Not all are called to adopt, but anyone can love and minister to orphan children in a very practical and meaningful way by helping other families adopt.
- Responding to the orphans cry with adoption models God's heart for orphans.
- Helping other families adopt models Jesus' sacrifice to pay for our adoption.

Adoption by a Christian Family:

- Brings God's love to orphan children by living example.
- Helps adopted children comprehend God's love.
- Most effective way to evangelize orphan children.

The Solution - Adoption Ministry in the Local Church:

- Fosters awareness of the problems, and the urgent need for adoption and belonging.
- Preaches the doctrine of adoption and the biblical mandate to love and care for orphans.
- Connects adopting families with those who have the means to help.

Advantages of Independent Adoption Ministry:

- Enables supporters to help adopting families in their own church and community.
- Requires little or no overhead - No need for a massive relief organization.
- Willingly supported by church members and others outside the church.
- Conducted by volunteers with God's heart for orphans.
- Requires no recruiting - Many Christian families already want to adopt.
- Can raise far more support for adoption expenses than any foundation will grant!