



"GOD'S HEART FOR THE ORPHAN"

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JAMES 1:27 (NASB)

I. ALL GOD'S FAMILY WAS ADOPTED (Romans 8:15).

INSIGHT: There are many unplanned pregnancies, but there are no unplanned adoptions (Ephesians 1:3-5).

TRUTH: Adoption isn't earned; it's received.

TRUTH: If you are saved, heaven is your home, not because you wandered into it, but because God came looking for you!

II. GOD WANTS YOUR HEART OPEN TOWARD ORPHANS (Proverbs 31:8-9).

How can you speak up for the orphan?

1. Open your heart to the orphan (Psalm 10:14, 17-18).
2. Recognize your responsibility (Jeremiah 7:6-7).

TRUTH: To not care about orphans is a sin.

TRUTH: For someone to be without a family is unacceptable to God (Jeremiah 5:22, 28-29).

INSIGHT: Single men can, like God in Psalm 68:5, be a father to the fatherless.

TRUTH: Single men need children in their lives because children are God's defense against selfishness.

III. PROTECT CHILDREN FROM BEING ORPHANS.

HOW? Advocate for them!

STATS:

- There are presently in Texas 12,643 children waiting to be adopted. 4% are less than 1 year old, 38% are 1-5 years old, and 26% are 6-10 years old.
- There are 138 million orphans worldwide. That's 1/2 the population of America.
- Every 14 seconds a child is orphaned due to AIDS in third world countries.

TRUTH: Adoption is a rescue mission of love, not only for now but eternity!

IV. HELP ORPHANS (Isaiah 1:17; Deuteronomy 10:18).

How can we help orphans?

1. Relieve their hurt (Matthew 25:35).

TRUTH: We relieve their hurting by providing food, clothing, and shelter.

2. Defend their rights (Deuteronomy 24:17).

3. Provide long-term solutions.

CHALLENGE: To learn what you could do to help, go by the M-145 table to learn about Adoption, Fostering and Advocating for children and families who are fostering or have adopted.