



15 DAYS OF PRAYER FOR ORPHANS

Resource and Prayer Guide



OVER 2,000 VERSES IN SCRIPTURE MAKE IT OUR MISSION.

Each of us who know and love God has been given a clear assignment from Him: Love and care for the fatherless. Over 2,000 verses in Scripture make it our mission. One way to get involved is by praying for orphans. This prayer guide is intended to help you pray specifically for vulnerable people in your community and around the world. You will learn more about orphan care, foster care and adoption, as well as practical ways to support families seeking to care for these children close to God's heart.

DAY 1



Pray for the 153 million orphans and vulnerable children worldwide.

The scope of today's personal and political crises is unprecedented. Everywhere we look, someone is hurting. Every time we turn on the TV we are bombarded with stories and images of people around the world who are experiencing deep suffering. Which can create a paralyzing problem of too many needs. How do we wrap our minds around a number like 153 million? What do we do? Start by loving ONE. One child. One cause. One crisis... empowered by one all-sufficient Savior.

GET INVOLVED: Find the one or two ways that you can most effectively serve orphans and children in need and then spend whatever time you can invest on those areas—digging deep—and leaving other opportunities for fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Need a place to start? Go to: lifesong.org

And the King will answer them, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to Me." | **Matthew 28:40**



DAY 2



Pray for your church to reach hurting children in your community.

Caring for orphans is the Gospel embodied. And in churches where the goal is to take the love of Christ where it's needed, perhaps nothing communicates this more clearly than counter-cultural hospitality for hurting children. Orphans in any context—whether literal or social—are among the most vulnerable people in the world. God has specifically tasked the Church with the responsibility of caring for children from hard places. The need is greater today than it has ever been.

GET INVOLVED: Learn more about what your church is doing to reach vulnerable children in your community and look for ways to get involved.

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them... | Romans 12:4-6



DAY 3



Pray for children
who are currently in
foster care.

Over 400,000 children are in foster care in the United States. Consider this: The 4 largest football stadiums in the U.S. could be filled to capacity and still not hold all the children who are currently in the system. Approximately 102,000 of these children are currently waiting to be adopted.

GET INVOLVED: The Forgotten Initiative exists to help you support the foster care community through awareness, encouragement, and advocacy. Learn more at: TheForgottenInitiative.org

For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by Whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God. | Romans 8:15-16



**“GOD CALLED US
TO CARE FOR
ORPHANS AS
IF THEY WERE
OUR OWN
CHILDREN.”**

ROBIN HILL
Founder, New Hope Foundation



DAY 4



Pray for the Global Church—the Body of Christ—who is working to reach children in need.

In countries like Thailand where many people do not yet know about Jesus, Pastor Vino and his church take boxes filled with school supplies, hygiene products, and tiny toys to children and families in need to develop new connections. For Pastor Vino, Christian holidays, especially, are tools to share the love of Christ with those who desperately need it.

GET INVOLVED: You can become a faithful partner in Pastor Vino's effort to take the love of Christ to children in Thailand. Sponsor one of the children in his church's care. Learn more at: lifesong.org/thailand

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. | James 1:27



DAY 5



Pray for Christian men
to take a bold step in
caring for kids in need.

God has created women to be nurturers, and many are doing good work nurturing vulnerable children. But God has called men to a specific task as well—to protect and provide for our families and to help father the fatherless children in our midst. Why are men important in orphan care? They are the spiritual leaders of their homes, and this is a spiritual crisis. Over 400,000 children in foster care is a crisis of epic proportions.

GET INVOLVED: “Here’s an action step we can all take. I would like to encourage us to consider partnering our men’s ministries with the local social services. They are working hard, but they cannot solve this issue by themselves. There is only one organization that can solve the orphan crisis in our community and around the world—that is the Church, the Body of Christ.”

– DJ Jordan, U.S. Senate Congressional Aide
and VA State Board of Social Services.

*Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the
right of the afflicted and the destitute. | Psalm 82:3*



DAY 6



Pray for orphan care
workers and ministries
all over the world.

Two children were living a good life in Tanzania when the unthinkable happened. The 6 people in their family were murdered by home invaders. The two children survived because they hid in a pile of laundry. They approached Pastor Micah and his wife—leaders of Lifesong Tanzania—and asked for help. According to Pastor Micah, “In situations like this, it’s impossible to say no to children, even though we are operating beyond our peak capacity. We thank God these kids are now settling in and healing after the tragic loss of their family.” Stories like this, unfortunately, are plentiful.

GET INVOLVED: Learn about 13 of the countries where Lifesong currently serves over 8,000 children. Take part in our commitment to these children with our 4 part pledge. Learn more here: lifesong.org/orphan-care

Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. | 1 John 3:18



DAY 7



Pray for children and families who have suffered deep losses and experience ongoing poverty.

Every orphan's story includes tragedy. Bringing healing to tragic circumstances is never simple. We must acknowledge this and talk frankly about hard issues... If we're serious about loving orphans well, we must do the hard work of study, preparation, and continual recalibration. Christians should lead the way in always pairing compassion with knowledge.

GET INVOLVED: Discover how you can better serve children impacted by adoption and foster care through Empowered to Connect. Their resources and annual conference are designed to help parents, caregivers, educators, ministry leaders, and professionals better understand how to create safe healing places for children and youth. Learn more at empoweredtoconnect.org

And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward. | Matthew 10:42



DAY 8



Pray for God to raise
up more families
in your church
willing to adopt.

Andy and Abby Huette know first-hand the powerful impact of being loved and supported by their church family during and after an adoption. Andy and Abby already had one child at home when they learned that they would be matched with a little boy and they were overjoyed. But a short time later, to their surprise, they learned they were also being matched a little girl. But the story doesn't stop there. Right before they left to bring their kids home, Abby learned she was pregnant with their 4th child. Thankfully, their church family came alongside them in a big way.

GET INVOLVED: Did you know 2 in 5 practicing Christians have considered adoption, but only 5% have actually adopted? The overwhelming reason is a lack of financial resources. Learn how to create fundraising solutions for adoptions in your church.

Visit: lifesong.org/church-partnership

Whosoever receives one such child in My name receives Me. | **Matthew 18:5**



DAY 9



Pray for young people
ready to age out of
foster care or graduate
from orphanages.

Without the support of loving adults, orphans struggle to survive in a world that isn't friendly to the fatherless. Within 2 years of aging out of an orphanage, a staggering 70-80% of Ukrainian youth will experience crime, prostitution, suicide, or overdose. Couples like Viktor and Nadia know that the support of a family and the love of Christ can make a world of difference for a child in need. Viktor and Nadia represent a growing number of couples from countries like Ukraine—where adoption is still relatively rare—choosing to adopt orphans in need. In Ukraine, over 100,000 children live in state-run orphanages.

GET INVOLVED: Lifesong Ukraine seeks to maintain connection with young adults even after they transition into adult life, helping to break the cycle of the orphan. Learn more about Ukraine transitional programs at: lifesong.org/Ukraine

We love because He first loved us. | 1 John 4:19



DAY 10



Pray for God to show
each of us something
we can do for
children in need.

Adopting is not a requirement for someone who loves Jesus any more than going to the mission field is a requirement for someone who loves the Great Commission, but caring for children in need is as much required of you as is sharing the Gospel. The call to go and the call to care are equally Scriptural.

GET INVOLVED: Looking for ways to creatively and practically care for orphans around the world? Find ministries you can partner with through Christian Alliance for Orphans.

Visit: cafo.org

From whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. | Ephesians 4:16



DAY 11



Pray for your church
to foster a culture
of commitment.

Fostering and adopting are hard work. But our relational God made us to be relational, and created a way for families to be encouraged while doing the hard, daily work of loving the fatherless and vulnerable. His solution? The Church. When a church family wholeheartedly commits to its fostering and adoptive families for the long haul, children are best positioned to succeed.

GET INVOLVED: Find families in your church who are fostering or adopting and look for ways you can encourage them. Some ideas include taking a meal, babysitting or sending a note.

For whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. | Ephesians 4:16



**“EVERY CHILD YOU
ENCOUNTER IS A
DIVINE APPOINTMENT.”**

WESS STAFFORD

President, Compassion International



DAY 12



Pray for orphaned
and vulnerable
children to learn and
love the Gospel.

“For the church to live out the Gospel in its simplest and truest form... we must not be afraid to be inconvenienced for loving the vulnerable in our communities. When we welcome and love the people the world wants us to hate, we advance the mission of God.”

–Jenny Yang
SVP of Advocacy & Policy, World Relief

GET INVOLVED: Take a short-term mission trip to see first-hand how God is working through His people to care for orphans and vulnerable children around the world.

*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord,
plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future
and a hope. | Jeremiah 29:11*



DAY 13



Pray for families—
here and around the
world—who are working
hard to stay together.

The greatest form of orphan care is orphan prevention. By offering support and resources, struggling families can begin to develop sustainable skills to stay together.

GET INVOLVED: Consider opportunities to help preserve families, including mentoring parents in your community or providing micro-loans for job creation around the world.

*Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill
the law of Christ. | Galatians 6:2*



DAY 14



Pray for God to raise
up the next generation
to love and care
for orphans.

Children learn the most about what we believe by watching what we do even more than listening to what we say we do. So if we want them to love and care for the world's most vulnerable, we ourselves must love and care for the world's most vulnerable. Thankfully, there are many ways to do this. Pray for them. Speak about them in a way that is loving and respectful. Give to meet their needs. Reach out to vulnerable children and families in your church or community.

GET INVOLVED: You can sponsor a child as a family. Go to lifesongchildsponsorship.org and commit to a child. Encourage your kids to contribute or to forgo certain extras to send that money where it is desperately needed. Pray together for the sponsored child.

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. | **Proverbs 22:6**



DAY 15



Pray that God would help you truly value what matters most as you seek to obey Him in caring for the fatherless.

“More and more we find that our attention is fractured—that our energy spreads thin—that our very lives divide into smaller and smaller parts. Truly good life—the life that God intends for us—requires not more, but less. To live well, to serve well, to love well, we must learn to prune.”

– Jedd Medefind, author and president of Christian Alliance for Orphans

GET INVOLVED: Find the one thing God wants you to do and do it. We aren’t called to do *everything*, but we can all do *something*.

Defend the cause of the fatherless | **Isaiah 1:17**



100%
TO CARE FOR
ORPHANS

Thanks to TMG Foundation and key partners, all of our fundraising and administrative costs are already covered. **100% of your received donation will directly help children in need.**

BRINGING **JOY & PURPOSE** TO ORPHANS

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