



GOD'S *heart* FOR THE ORPHAN

30 Day Prayer Guide *For* Orphan Care

October 13

Meditate on Ephesians 1:1-14.

As we begin this journey of prayer, spend some time praising God for His adoption of us. Pray that we as God's children at Calvary Church would have hearts that more fully appreciate the Gospel and desire to take care of orphans in order to share it with others.

October 14

Meditate on Psalm 27:10.

Cry out to God on behalf of the estimated 150 million orphans worldwide, specifically those who do not have a saving knowledge of Jesus. Beg Him to cause them to find salvation and healing in the Lord's everlasting arms. Ask God to bring people into each of their lives who can share with them the hope found in Jesus.

October 15

Meditate on Exodus 2:1-10.

In the state of Michigan alone, there are 14,000 children that enter the foster care system each year in Kent County there are 1,000 each year. Pray that you, like Pharaoh's daughter, will have eyes that are open to see the hurting children around you and will have a heart that is willing to do what you can to serve them.

October 16

Meditate on James 1:22-27.

Pray that we at Calvary Church would be willing to put the command we have been given to take care of orphans into practice. Ask God to give you personally as well as each individual at Calvary a sense of urgency to desire to do something about the plight of orphans. Pray against feelings of apathy, hopelessness, and paralysis concerning this issue.

October 17

Meditate on 2 Corinthians 10:3-4.

Take a few moments to let the truth of these verses sink in. God has given us weapons with which we can demolish strongholds established by the Enemy. Thank God for this, recognizing that we engage in spiritual warfare by caring for orphans but that God has already given us the victory. Pray that we will not fight this crisis as the world fights, but with the strength and the weapons that God provides.



October 18

Meditate on Psalm 33.

Pray today that our nation's political leaders would yield themselves to the leading of the Spirit so that He can use them for His purposes. Ask God that they would see the great need to care for orphans and look to God for help in doing so. Pray also that God would stand in the way of corrupt leaders in countries with vulnerable children.

October 19

Meditate on Jeremiah 1.

Pray for the emotional healing of children who have gone through trauma. Beg God to speak to their hurting hearts, telling them that they have a purpose and a Father who knows them and loves them desperately. Thank Him for loving each one. Ask that Calvary Kids and Students would be a safe place for these children, and that our students would have welcoming and accepting attitudes toward them.

October 20

Meditate on Luke 11:9-13.

Pray for solid father figures in the lives of orphans who live without one. Pray boldly that these men will exemplify the redeeming love of God the Father and thereby give children a positive concept of what a father is.

October 21

Meditate on Isaiah 61.

Today, pray for families in West Michigan whose rights to their children have been permanently terminated. Pray that God would redeem their brokenness and replace it with the joy that comes from knowing Jesus. Thank God for His promise to heal and to redeem. Pray that Calvary would have open arms to these people and that they would feel welcomed and at home among the family of believers.

October 22

Meditate on Matthew 25:31-46.

Pray for Calvary staff and congregation members who are considering foster care and adoption. Call upon the Lord to ask that He would bless them for their desire to obey Him and would illumine the next steps that they should take.



October 23

Meditate on John 14:18.

Pray for older children in the foster care system and in orphanages who are waiting for a forever family. Pray for efficiency in the placement system and for God to call a family to adopt each specific child. Ask God to give these children hope through His promises so that they do not turn to unhealthy behaviors to try to ease their own heartache.

October 24

Meditate on Jeremiah 32:38-41.

Pray for a family at Calvary who is in the process of adopting from India. Ask that God would give them guidance as they continue to walk by faith and that this time of transition would go smoothly for them. Pray that God will receive all the glory through their adoption story.

October 25

Meditate on Matthew 9:35-38.

Thank Jesus for His compassion on orphans. Ask that He raise up people who will demonstrate this compassion to them, including adoptive and foster families, social workers, trauma counselors, and government leaders. Ask Christ to mobilize His body for action and to make clear to you the right steps to take even today to participate in this.

October 26

Meditate on Genesis 45.

Pray for the reunification of foster children with their birth families. Ask God to cause both parties to experience God's love during the children's time in foster care and pray that there would be true healing and forgiveness in these situations.

October 27

Meditate on Psalm 84.

Lift up Calvary families who desire to adopt and are in a stage where they have to fill out lots of paperwork. Ask that the Lord would use this often-tedious process to remind them of His sovereignty and care for them. Pray that God would give them a word of encouragement today as they walk in obedience to Him.

October 28

Meditate on Isaiah 41:10-14

Bring Calvary's Forever Hope Orphan Care Ministry before the Lord today. Ask that its leaders would have wisdom in knowing how to best minister to orphans and that God would keep Satan's advances at bay. Pray that Forever Hope would always align itself with God's will and His heart for the orphan.



October 29

Meditate on 1 Corinthians 12.

Thank God for creating us uniquely and for using us together to accomplish His purposes. Pray that God would call people from within our congregation to provide respite care for foster and/or adoptive families. Ask Him to equip them with the resources they need in order to best support these families.

October 30

Meditate on Ephesians 2:19-22.

Pray for a smooth transition for children who are being adopted by Calvary families. Ask the Lord to lavish these children with His love through this process and for the children to quickly feel welcomed as a member of the family.

October 31

Meditate on Psalm 10.

Let this psalm be your prayer to God today. Remind Him of His promise in verse 14 and ask Him to come to the rescue of children in dark circumstances. Ask Him to bring justice to those who suffer unfairly and to expose the sinful acts of their perpetrators. Pray against physical and emotional abuse of children who live on the streets.

November 1

Meditate on Genesis 21:8-21.

Pray for women who view abandonment of their child as their only option. Ask that God would miraculously provide for them in their time of need so that they do not have to resort to abandoning their child. Pray that the Lord would use this difficult season in their lives to demonstrate that they can depend fully on Him to meet all of their needs.

November 2

Meditate on Colossians 3.

Lift up in prayer a Calvary family who has adopted two special needs children domestically out of foster care. Pray that God would strengthen and encourage them and use their story to illustrate the Gospel message to those who need to hear it. Ask that they would experience rest and that God would reward them for their service to Him.



November 3

Meditate on Proverbs 22:1-16.

Pray for orphanages across the globe. Ask God that the caregivers would come to saving faith in Jesus and that they would be able to show the love they experience from Him to the children they take care of. Pray that orphanages would serve as supportive homes without encouraging parents to leave their children there who otherwise would not have done so.

November 4

Meditate on Ephesians 4:11-16.

Pray today for organizations in our area whose mission is to facilitate foster care. The five agencies in Kent County are: Bethany Christian Services, Catholic Charities, D.A. Blodgett, Samaritas and Wellspring Lutheran. Thank God for the work that these organizations have already done. Pray that they would daily place themselves under the leadership and direction of Jesus as they work to serve Him. Ask that they have wisdom in their continued efforts to put children in loving families, and pray for justice within the system.

November 5

Meditate on Psalm 139.

Today, pray this psalm over foster girls. National statistics show that 71% of girls who spent time in foster care become pregnant before turning 21, a sign that they are hungry for love. Cry out to the Lord on their behalf, pleading that He bring them to a deep understanding of His unconditional love for them.

November 6

Meditate on Esther 4, reading the previous chapters for context if necessary.

Consider how the story of Esther and of the Jews as a people would have been different had Mordecai not taken Esther in after the death of her parents. Thank the Lord that He uses even what we see as broken situations for good. Pray that God will use adopted and foster children for the saving of many lives like He used Esther. Ask Him to give them hope by revealing glimpses of the way their stories fit into His plan of redemption.



November 7

Meditate on Philippians 4.

Today let's together cry out to our Lord on behalf of children who live in extreme poverty. Plead that God would meet all of their needs according to His glorious riches in Christ. Ask God to do this in a way that leaves no other possible explanation besides His abundant love toward people. Pray that God would prove Himself as a trustworthy Provider for orphaned children.

November 8

Meditate on Matthew 6:24-29.

Please pray today for a family at Calvary who recently adopted from China. Thank Him that as believers our foundation is firm. Ask that this would ring true in this family's adoption story. Pray for the salvation of their new child and that Jesus would bless this family for putting His words into practice.

November 9

Meditate on Ephesians 5.

There are an estimated 150 million orphans worldwide, but there are also about 37 million Christian churches. Pray that church leaders in our community and beyond would recognize the magnitude of this crisis and that we as the Bride of Christ would exemplify Jesus' love for orphans by taking action on their behalf.

November 10

Meditate on Proverbs 2.

Pray for the education of orphans worldwide. Ask the Lord that orphans will devote themselves to their studies and that they will see Him at work through them. Pray that God would use their schooling not only to instill factual knowledge in their minds, but also to teach them the wisdom that comes from knowing God and His Word. Pray that God would provide for those who cannot afford an education.

November 11

Meditate on Philippians 1.

Thank God for the journey of prayer He has taken us through these past 30 days and for the opportunity that we have to be used by God in the lives of orphans. Pray that God would continue to cultivate in you a heart for orphans and show you specific steps of obedience you can take to care for them. Ask that we as Christ's Church would have unity as we fight this battle and that the One who began this good work in us would carry it on to completion.

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