

Hope For Orphans

Family Theme: What to do about orphans

Study Text: Various

November 11, 2018 – Orphan Sunday

Ephesians 1:5

You were an orphan once. You may have grown up with a father and mother so physically, you may not be an orphan, but you were a spiritual orphan until you were adopted by God. God has a very big heart for the fatherless. We see this in both the Old Covenant and the New. God loves you so much that He adopted you into His family. This is not a burden to Him. He takes great pleasure in doing it. **Discussion:**

- Is anyone in the group adopted? Would you like to share that experience?
- When did God adopt us into His family?
- Is there any other way to become a member of God's family?

Galatians 4:6-7

God gives you all He has because you are His child. The default state of our spiritual being is that of a dead person destined to hell. If you have not actively called upon the Lord Jesus to save you from sin, you are still in your sins. When God saves you, many things take place instantly. One of those things is spiritual adoption. Without spiritual adoption, none of us can get to heaven. **Discussion:**

- What are some of the things that happen the moment we are saved?
- Before adoption, God did not treat you as a child. How is the relationship different now that you are a child of God?

James 1:27

We should show the same generosity toward physical orphans that God shows towards us. God cares for the orphan in a very special way, and so should we. James summarized the Christian life as being about private purity and public charity. Jesus says something very similar in the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:37-40). **Discussion:**

- What should our response be to God realizing how much He loves us?
- What are some practical ways to love the orphan?