



Message Notes
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7/13/14
Caring Enough to Help Orphans

"But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?"
— Romans 10:14 NLT

Context of Orphans in the OT:

- Orphans* were victims of violence Job 22:9
- Orphans* were kidnapped and sold Job 24:9
- Orphans* were helpless Job 29:12
- Orphans* battled hunger; abandonment; no representation in court Job 31
- Orphans* lost their land; livestock; life gambled over Proverbs 23
- Orphans* experienced oppression Jeremiah 7: 5-7
- Orphans* are a top priority for God Exodus 22-23 & Deuteronomy
- Orphans* are tied to God (*Father of the Fatherless*) Psalm 68:5

1. Compassion for orphans flows from a heart of _____

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! ² While I live I will praise the Lord; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being. ³ Do not put your trust in princes, Nor in a son of man, in whom there is no help. ⁴ His spirit departs, he returns to his earth; In that very day his plans perish. ⁵ Happy is he who has the God of Jacob for his help, Whose hope is in the Lord his God, ⁶ Who made heaven and earth, The sea, and all that is in them..." --Psalm 146: 1-6a

God's compassion motivates my compassion:

"God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure." — Ephesians 1:5 NLT

"Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children." — Ephesians 5:1 NLT

2. God's plan for caring for orphans is His _____

Who keeps truth forever,⁷ Who executes justice for the oppressed, Who gives food to the hungry. The Lord gives freedom to the prisoners. ⁸ The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; The Lord raises those who are bowed down; The Lord loves the righteous. ⁹ The Lord watches over the strangers; He relieves the fatherless and widow; But the way of the wicked He turns upside down. ¹⁰ The Lord shall reign forever— Your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the Lord!" -- Psalm 146: 6b-10

Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means **car**ing for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you. (James 1:27 NLT)

Greek Translation: *Episkeptomia*
To help, strengthen, encourage

Tangible ways to Care for Orphans:

- Student Ministry to children that have lost one parent
- Foster Care
- Ministry to foster care parents
- Preventive Orphan care
- Support to Orphan Ministry Initiatives
- Establish Funding to Orphan Care "C-127"
- Adoption



My Next Steps:
A. Read all of *Psalm 146*
B. Memorize Psalm 68:7 + James 1:27
C. Seek to Help support C-127
D. Return for next week's message