

"YOU Need Orphan Care"

Genesis 48

Introduction

I. Four Adoption/Orphan Care TRUTHS...

Genesis 48:5 -

1) Adoption makes _____ sons & daughters NOT second-class citizens or "pretend" family members.

Note: Adoption creates a new reality and a new identity that is true and _____!

Ephesians 2:11-12 - "Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called 'the uncircumcision' by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands - remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world."

Galatians 5:19-21a - "Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these."

Ephesians 2:13, 17-19 - "But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ... And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God..."

Matthew 12:46-50 - "While he was still speaking to the people, behold, his mother and his brothers stood outside, asking to speak to him. But he replied to the man who told him, 'Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?' And stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers! For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.'"

Galatians 3:28-29 - "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise."

Hebrews 2:11 - "For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers..."

John 20:17 - "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Genesis 48:3-5 -

2) Adoption should be based upon and understood in light of God's _____ plans & promises.

Note: The Lamb MUST receive His _____ reward!!!

Ephesians 6:4 - "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."

Genesis 48:12-13 -

3) Ephraim & Manasseh were adopted because of Jacob's love for his son, Joseph. Likewise, we are adopted into God's family _____ His Son, Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 1:5-6 - "In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved."

John 1:12 - "...to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of flesh nor of the will of man, but of God."

Genesis 48:14, 17-19 -

4) Blessing & adoption into God's family is not a matter of biology or birth order but of _____ love.

Acts 11:15-18 - "As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way? When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, 'Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life.'"

II. Three Adoption/Orphan Care MYTHS...

MYTH #1: Adoption within the same race is ok but interracial adoption should be avoided.

Correction: With human beings, there is no such thing as interracial adoption. It doesn't _____!

Acts 17:24-26a - "The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth..."

MYTH #2: Adoption is a "nice thing" to do and is guaranteed to go well.

Correction: Adoption is _____ and takes maximum effort and maximum dependence upon God.

Hebrews 11:32-35a -

Hebrews 11:35b-39 -

MYTH #3: I'm not called to orphan care of any kind. It's somebody else's job.

Correction: YOU need to be involved in orphan care for _____ spiritual well being.

James 1:27 - "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."

Luke 14:12-14 - "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

Note: The reality of the resurrection frees you up to live a self-sacrificing and _____ life for Christ!