

A world map with a watercolor-style texture in shades of blue, green, and teal, serving as a background for the main text.

# ANNUAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR CHILDREN AT HIGH RISK

SUNDAY, JUNE 9TH, 2019

## PRAY FOR THE ORPHAN

CARING FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN.

### PRAYER OUTLINE

*“to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.” Isaiah 61:3*

**PREPARATION FOR PRAYER:** God desires to hear the prayers of His people. Who will cry out to our Heavenly Father for the orphan?

### GOD LOVES CHILDREN

*“Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.”*  
*Matthew 18:3-4*

### PRAYER PERSPECTIVE:

1. God loves the orphan far more than we do.
2. God calls men, women, and children to Himself through adoption.
3. As we pray, the Holy Spirit will guide us and give us a greater understanding of the heart of God.
4. It is God’s joy to answer the prayers of His people when they pray for His will to be done. He wants us to tell Him what is on our hearts.

## PRAYER OF PRAISE AND AFFIRMATION

*“Arise, LORD! Lift up your hand, O God.  
Do not forget the helpless.” Psalm 10:12*

*REFRAIN: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.*

## MOURNING WITH THE ORPHAN

The loss of family is a result of the fall and a *real sorrow* not to be quickly overlooked when thinking of spiritual adoption. Pray for orphans as they grieve such great loss.

- Pray for orphans who have been left alone with no one to care for them. They often live on the streets or among the garbage.
- Pray that the orphan will have the strength to persevere when all seems hopeless.
- Pray for the HIV infected AIDS orphan. In the death of their parents, these children have seen first hand the devastating effect of their disease. They know they too face that end.

*REFRAIN: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.*

## PROTECTING THE ORPHAN

UNICEF and global partners define an orphan as a child under 18 years of age who has lost one or both parents to any cause of death. By this definition, there are nearly *140 million orphans* globally, of that number, 15.1 million are “double orphans” experiencing the loss of both parents (*unicef.org*).

- Pray that the orphan would receive basic care: food, medicine, clothing, and shelter.
- Pray for the millions of caregivers, grandmothers, aunts and uncles, and siblings who provide for orphan children.
- Pray that the orphan would be protected from forced labor, abuse, and prostitution.

## GOD CALLS THE ORPHAN

*“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see Me anymore, but you will see Me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day, you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in Me, and I am in you.” 1 John 14:18-19*

- Pray that the orphan would experience healing for deep emotional wounds and deliverance from fear, anger, and isolation.
- Pray for the church as it replaces the stigmatism of the orphan with the compassion of Jesus. Pray for bold steps of love.
- Pray for the orphan to see the love of God the Father, come to saving faith through Christ the Son, and know the deep comfort to of the Holy Spirit.
- Pray for the orphan to know their worth as a child of God and to live in light of that truth.

*REFRAIN: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.*

## **ADOPTING THE ORPHAN**

The reality of their spiritual adoption may not alter a child's worldly standing, pray that these precious children would both know the adoption of God and the security of the *love and care of a family*.

- Pray for many Christians to be willing to love and care for the orphan. Pray that they would be taken into families that seek to understand and care for their unique needs.
- Pray that the orphan would have the courage to accept love and love in return despite their great loss.
- Pray for areas where the need is so great the number of orphans is beyond the scope of individual adoptions. Pray for orphanages to care for each child uniquely, to be run with wisdom and integrity, and to put the needs of the orphan before financial gain.

*REFRAIN: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.*

## **CARING FOR THE VULNERABLE**

*“Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I, too, will love them and show myself to them.” 1 John 14:21*

*Hanna Orphan's Home (HOH) is near the garbage dump on the edge of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Seventeen years ago, Hanna, a 14-year-old, had the burden of taking in a 4-year-old boy whose mother just died of AIDS. When she wanted to house more, her father rented a home for her and her kids. The ministry has grown to care for over 50 children in 8 homes and an additional 200 still living within the slum community.*

*HOH has two kinds of support services:*

- 1. The first program is holistic support services given to orphaned children. These children live in 8 rented houses, living in a group of 6-8 based on their age similarity and gender. In each house, there is one house mother, who is employed to live with and to take care of the children. All house mothers are well trained and have a responsibility to prepare food, clean the house, and send children to school.*
- 2. The second program cares for 200 vulnerable children within the community who are living in poverty with their families. These children receive support services like clothing, schooling, a daily meal, medication, hygienic materials, and training. Monthly money is given to their families, with a certain portion set aside in closed savings accounts for the children's future. To change the living conditions of these children, mothers are trained to open and run their own small businesses. After the training, they are allowed to borrow seed money from HOH, which enable them to generate various activities according to their preference. This is intended to enable them to live better lives and change their family status.*

*Children in both programs are enrolled in school and go to HOH after school each day, where they receive a daily meal, tutoring, spend time in the library or computer classes, and receive medical attention, counseling services, educational guidance if needed. They also participate in Bible Studies*

- Praise the Lord for Hanna, her compassion for others and her faithful care of the orphan.
- Pray for the house mothers to have wisdom as they care for the orphan with the love of Christ.
- Pray for many women to escape the cycle of poverty and provide for their families through gainful employment.
- Pray that the Lord would continue to bless and expand the work of Hanna's Orphan House.

## **PRAYER OF PRAISE AND FAITH**

*“And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. God saw the people of Israel—and God knew.” Exodus 23-25*

*REFRAIN: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.*

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*Since 1992, Oakseed Ministries has been assisting indigenous ministries by serving abandoned children and the poor in the Developing World's largest cities, bringing the good news of Jesus through word and deed.*

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