

**Revised prayer content originally from the "One hour prayer guide for the fatherless" written by Joe Gerber, Loving Shepherd Ministries.*

STEP 1

MEDITATE on key Scriptures God's heart for the fatherless and the vulnerable.

(10 MIN)

A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families, he leads forth the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land. **Psalm 68:4-5**

For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the alien, giving him food and clothing.

Deuteronomy 10:17-19

Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

Psalm 82:3-4

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. **James 1:22**

But you, O God, do see trouble and grief; you consider it to take it in hand. The victim commits himself to you; you are the helper of the fatherless. You hear, O Lord, the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry, defending the fatherless and the oppressed, in order that man, who is of the earth, may terrify no more. **Psalm 10:14, 17-18**

Learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow. **Isaiah 1:17**

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

James 1:27



STEP 2

PRAY specifically for children, caregivers, and families... **1**-in your immediate sphere of influence i.e. family, foster families, adoptive families, and those children in the foster care system. **2**-in our Home Based Care (HBC) program globally.

(5 MIN)

STEP 3

Remember that we serve a God who does not change, and who has explicitly declared (see verses above) that He is the defender of the fatherless. He is just waiting for us to come before Him in prayer so that He might work mighty works on behalf of the fatherless. It's His will!

Now, with great confidence that God will hear and answer your prayers, please spend 3 minutes praying for each of the following:

(3 MIN)

That the Global Church would rediscover the Biblical mandate to care for widows, foreigners, and the fatherless –specifically to the fatherless.

That the Global Church would commit to fulfilling this mandate not out of guilt or mechanical obedience but because of the joy and abundance that comes from serving those God cares about. (*We love because he first loved us. 1 John 4:19*)

Awareness among Christians about the global plight of the fatherless. That this awareness, coupled with the joy that comes from fulfilling God's mandates, would lead to a burning desire to take action on behalf of the fatherless.

That the cause of the fatherless would serve a unifying rallying point for churches around the world thereby bringing about a Christ Honoring unity.

