

Who cares?

Thank you, as you stand with the 38,000 children coming into care this year alone.

Reflecting on Psalm 68: God's Call to Embrace the vulnerable in today's church

Psalm 68 makes a bold claim: "A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families..." (Psalm 68:5-6a, NIV) But what did this mean in practice?

Because of the way society was structured at that time, a child's loss of a father or a widow's loss of a husband made them very vulnerable to marginalisation and exploitation. It could be a matter of life and death. Instead, God is celebrated as the one who would ensure their survival and flourishing. We see in these verses a rejection of isolation and loneliness and the vulnerabilities these entail, and a move towards resilience.

The people of God were to work out these commitments in the everyday life of their communities (see, for example, Deuteronomy 10:12-22), and this calling is no less true for the Church today.

An everyday practice of prayer.

Take a moment at mealtime. As you sit down, before eating, perhaps in your thanksgiving prayers, remember the children and young people who are sitting down today to a meal in an unfamiliar home with unfamiliar people and unfamiliar food, adjusting to this new season in care. Pray for all those adjusting (carers too) and also those not at the table as well (birth family and siblings).

Prayer requests for June 2024

This month we are focusing our prayers on children and young people being placed into unfamiliar family settings.

- Pray for children and young people who are meeting their foster/adoptive/supported lodgings family for the first time.
- Pray that God's peace and father heart will surround them.
- Pray for that first day they spend in their unfamiliar home, that they will feel safe, and accepted.
- Pray that the new relationships they are forming, will provide stability and security.
- Pray that the unfamiliar home will soon become a family unit that grows together.

Pray for children and young people who are still waiting to be placed in a home.

- Pray for a door to be opened for waiting children and young people to be brought into a home.
- Pray that during the wait they would know the support and care of those around them, that they would be kept safe and protected.
- Pray that more families would open their doors to fostering, adoption and supported lodgings.
- Pray for those families waiting to be selected will find the right match so that they can share their home with a child or young person in need.

Home for Good has lots of upcoming events, from online information evenings to our rated "excellent" foundations course. Follow [this link](#) to see what's happening in your area and what you can get involved in.

Thank you again for being part of this growing movement of prayer, we encourage you to **SHARE [this pledge](#) with others to join us and help hold 38,000 children in prayer this year.**