



# Resource List: Adoption

The resources listed below align with Focus on the Family's philosophy and mission. We trust you will find them helpful. If you would like to obtain any of these items, call us toll free at 1-800-A-FAMILY, or visit our online store at [store.focusonthefamily.com](http://store.focusonthefamily.com). (The information is regularly updated, but there is still the possibility that an item originally available from Focus on the Family might now be unavailable.) You may also be interested in the content posted on our website at [focusonthefamily.com](http://focusonthefamily.com).

## Included

[Books](#)  
[Broadcasts & Other Audio](#)  
[DVDs & Online Booklets](#)  
[Websites, Q&As, and Resource Lists](#)  
[Referrals](#)

## Books

**[Before You Were Mine: Discovering Your Adopted Child's Lifestory](#)** by Susan TeBos and Carissa Woodwyk (2011)

• 9780310331032 •

Documenting your adopted child's past can bring you closer together as a family. Weave a biblical foundation into the center of your child's story.

**[Castaway Kid: One Man's Search for Hope and Home](#)** by Rob Mitchell (2007) • 9781589974340 •

As an orphan, Mitchell grew up alongside kids who were "co-survivors" rather than friends. Becoming a Christian as a teenager, he found what he was looking for: home and family in a relationship with God.

**[The Connected Child: Bring Hope and Healing to Your Adoptive Family](#)** by Dr. Karyn Purvis, Dr. David Cross, and Wendy Sunshine (2007) • 9780071475006 •

Build bonds of affection and trust with your adopted child, deal with learning or behavioral disorders, and help children who have experienced severe trauma and abuse.

**[Dorie: The Girl Nobody Loved](#)** by Doris Van Stone (1981) • 9780802422750 •

Dorie was rejected by her mother and was sent to live in an orphanage where she was regularly beaten by the orphanage director and cruel foster parents. As she accepted God's love, her life began to change.

**[Farmer Herman and the Flooding Barn](#)** by Jason Weber (2016) • 9781424553181 •

This children's book brings hope to those waiting for a forever family. It's based on the true story of "344 people working together to solve a big, big, big problem."

**[Handbook on Thriving As an Adoptive Family](#)** edited (2008) • 9781589973381 •

Gain insight into vital issues such as attachment and bonding, sibling and extended family relationships, past abuse, nurture and discipline, and how to develop a support network.

**[Orphanology: Awakening to Gospel-Centered Adoption and Orphan Care](#)** by Tony Merida and Rick Morton (2011)

• 9781596693029 •

Along with sharing their families' adoption stories, Merida and Morton offer steps for adopting, assisting orphans in transition, engaging in foster care, partnering with faith-based fostering agencies, and becoming orphan hosts.

**[Small Town, Big Miracle](#)** by Bishop W.C. Martin (2007) • 9781589974432 •

God chose the bishop of a small church to begin a movement with one simple word: adopt. Church members were challenged to adopt 72 of the toughest kids in the foster care system and demonstrate the power and redemption of love.

**Undone: A Story of Making Peace with an Unexpected Life** by Michele Cushatt (2015) • 9780310339786 •

Cushatt describes her journey through a broken marriage, single parenting, remarriage, blending a family, cancer, and adopting three children—all to point to a sovereign Lord who offers peace to those who seek Him.

**Wait No More: One Family's Amazing Adoption Journey** by John and Kelly Rosati (2011) • 9781589976535 •

The Rosatis' journey to adopt four children from foster care demonstrates God's faithfulness in growing a family from the pain of child abuse, neglect, and abandonment. They share how their beliefs enriched and transformed their family's life.

**When Invisible Children Sing** by Dr. Chi Huang (2011) • 9781414353111 •

What began as a year off from medical school changed Huang forever as he discovered the broken lives of orphans and street children in Bolivia. To reach their hearts, he had to learn what it meant to live selflessly.

**Broadcasts & Other Audio**

**Adoption: Families Stepping Out in Faith** (Various) • 9781624715204 •

Hear answers to some of the questions and fears about adoption. Be encouraged to consider how *you* can care for orphans—either by adopting or by supporting others who do.

**Adoption: Making a Difference in the Life of a Child** (Mike and Kristin Berry) • 9781624719752 •

The Berrys share their story of adopting eight children. They talk about the joys and challenges of raising their children, how to begin the process, and the importance of community to surround and support adoptive families.

**Adopting Through Foster Care** (Gail Wahl, Amanda Olivero) • 9781624715334 •

As a former Court Appointed Special Advocate, Gail witnessed the difficulties children often face in foster care, and she was drawn to Amanda, who simply wanted a forever family. Gail and her husband began to foster Amanda—and here she and Amanda tell their story leading up to the Wahls adopting Amanda just 12 days before she aged out of the system.

**Adventures in Odyssey® #47: Into the Light** • 9781589974463 •

In "The Chosen One" Kelly faces an absent father, an abusive mother with several boyfriends, and schools that have kicked her out. And the Washingtons have a difficult choice to make when Whit suggests that they might be suited to mentor Kelly.

**Bringing New Hope to Kids Through Adoption – I, II** (John and Kelly Rosati) • 9781624714429 •

The Rosatis openly share the joys and struggles of adopting four children. They encourage you to ask God how *you* can get involved in rescuing children—whether it's by personally caring for a child or by supporting other families who do.

**The Chapmans: A Heart for Orphans** (Steven Curtis and Mary Beth Chapman) • 9781624715389 •

The Chapmans discuss the plight of the orphan, urge others to support orphan-care ministries, and share their journey of adopting three daughters from China. Be encouraged to minister to orphans by assisting families who choose adoption.

**Dorie: The Girl Nobody Loved** (Dorie Van Stone) • 9781624719110 •

Van Stone shares her testimony of being a neglected and abused orphan—an outwardly mean child overlooked by adoptive families. But she clung to the promise of God's love and eventually served with her husband as missionaries in New Guinea.

**The Drop Box: Saving Babies, Changing Lives** (Brian Ivie, Kelly Rosati) • 9781624718434 •

Ivie shares about his conversion as a result of filming *The Drop Box*, which documents a South Korean pastor's efforts to rescue hundreds of abandoned babies. Learn more about the needs of orphans worldwide.

**Embracing God in the Midst of Hardship** (Michele Cushatt) • 9781624719479 •

Cushatt shares of being diagnosed with tongue cancer. She relates an earlier broken marriage, then re-marrying and blending a family. And as she and her husband were approaching an empty nest, they adopted three children. She describes her struggle to deconstruct false beliefs about God, why He allows suffering, and how she's learning to trust Him in the midst of fear.

**Foster Parenting: Providing Homes for Waiting Kids** (Dan and Joy Loney) • 9781624714504 •

After raising five biological children, the Loneys began to foster children, eventually adopting four. Here they share about some of the difficulties they encountered—but also the great joy these children have brought to their family.

**Giving Hope to a Child in Foster Care** (Bishop Aaron and Mrs. Mary Blake, Wayne Tesch) • 9781624716386 •

Guests share their concerns for children in foster care. They found the courage to help just one child, and God opened the door to serve needy children around the world.

**Healing Childhood Traumas** (Stephanie Fast) • 9781624718632 •

Fast describes the horrors of her life as a mixed-race orphan in Korea after the Korean War—and about her rescue by a World Vision worker. She relates her adoption by missionaries, her salvation at age 15, and her emotional and spiritual healing, including her struggle with anger and hatred. Be encouraged to not rush God’s purpose during the healing process.

**Helping Adoptive Families Thrive** (Dr. Debi Grebenik) • 9781624713415 •

Parents adopt with high hopes—but the unique challenges they face can often be surprising and discouraging. Grebenik shares from her experience as a counselor to adoptive families and offers suggestions for successful and satisfying parenting.

**My Adopted Son: A Single Woman’s Story** (Carolyn Koons) • 9781624718519 •

Antonio was a young boy in a harsh children’s prison in Mexico and had been falsely accused and sentenced to life for murder. He was found innocent but was then sold into slavery. Two-and-a-half years later he was found, and Carolyn adopted him. She shares about the difficult journey and realizing the depth of God’s love and care.

**Radio Theatre: Oliver Twist** • 9781604829778 • *Focus on the Family’s Radio Theatre*®

In this full-cast audio production of Charles Dickens’ timeless tale set in 1830s London, you’ll be drawn into the drama of compassion, corruption, and redemption as one orphan changes the lives of everyone around him. The set also includes a video documentary with behind-the-scenes footage and stories of real, modern-day “Olivers.”

**Opening Your Home to those in Need** (Francis and Lisa Chan) • 9781624719448 •

The Chans challenge the Church to think beyond our own needs and comforts to follow God’s command to care for and serve others. They describe the joys and challenges of being foster parents, and how that relationship has strengthened their faith.

**Orphan Care: Accepting the Call** (Kay Warren) • 9781624718045 •

Warren shares how God got her attention concerning the plight of orphans worldwide. She challenges believers and churches to make the invisible God visible in the lives of those who may never know His love unless *we* make Him known.

**The Plight of the Modern-Day Orphan** (Paul McCusker, Kelly Rosati) • 9781624711961 •

Hear excerpts from *Focus on the Family’s Radio Theatre*® version of *Oliver Twist*, and learn how families and churches provide forever-homes to today’s orphans.

**Standing in the Gap for Kids in Foster Care** (Dr. Sharen Ford) • 9781624718915 •

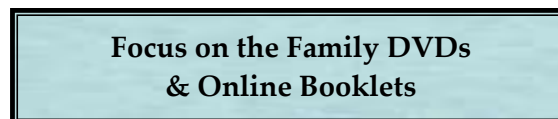
Ford is a 30-year veteran of Colorado’s Department of Human Services (as of 2015) and is Focus on the Family’s Adoption Consultant. She explains the plight of orphans in the foster-care system, and she encourages Christians to help—whether by praying, providing respite care, or finding other ways to come alongside foster families.

**Supporting Children in Foster Care** (Gail Wahl) • 9781624712890 •

Wahl shares her heart for kids in the foster care system and encourages us to ask God how we might become involved in meeting the needs of these vulnerable children.

**Voices of Adoption** (Various) • 9781624712258 •

Listeners share their personal stories of adoption—as birthparents, adopted children, or adoptive parents. Jill Savage also shares how her biological children adjusted to their brother who was adopted from Russia.



**The Drop Box** (2015) • 83061117795 •

This documentary highlights a South Korean pastor’s efforts to protect abandoned children. It’s a story about the forgotten, the disabled, the discarded—and the man who gives everything to protect them.

**A Servant’s Heart: Supporting Adoptive Families in Your Community** (2015) • 235000000387 •

Learn to care for adoptive and foster families in your community. The DVD includes discussion questions, video content about real-life experiences, and practical ideas for implementing a four-week service project to come alongside adoptive families.



**Adoption and Orphan Care Resource Kit**

This guide can help you make a difference in the life of a waiting child.

### **Attachment in Adoption**

When emotional, psychological, behavioral or learning difficulties arise with children who were adopted or in foster care—especially children with a history of neglect or abuse—the problem is nearly always rooted in or related to issues of attachment.

### **Hope & Healing for Sensory Deprivation**

Understand how to parent children with a history of trauma

### **Hope & Healing Through Animal-Assisted Therapy**

Use children's love of animals to help them overcome a history of trauma.

### **Love and Loss in Foster Care**

Learn to navigate the fear, heartache, and joy inherent to the uncertain journey of foster care and adoption.

### **Preparing for a Transracial Adoption**

Keep in mind special considerations when adopting a child of another race.

### **Wrapping Around Adoptive Families**

There are many ways to minister God's love to orphans—and to the adoptive families that have welcomed these children home. This booklet will help those who may not be called to adopt but who still want to help.

### **Your Guide to Adoption**

Are you considering adopting from foster care but aren't sure where to start? This booklet is designed to help guide families thinking about foster care adoption.

## **Focus on the Family Websites, Q&As, and Resource Lists**

#### **iCareAboutOrphans.org**

- [icareaboutorphans.org](http://icareaboutorphans.org)  
This outreach offers information about starting the adoption and foster care process, resource recommendations, and post-placement support.
- [icareaboutorphans.org/consideringadoption/stateadoptionrequirements](http://icareaboutorphans.org/consideringadoption/stateadoptionrequirements)  
Find information about adopting from foster care in all 50 states.

#### **Parenting: Adoptive Families**

- [focusonthefamily.com/parenting/adoptive\\_families](http://focusonthefamily.com/parenting/adoptive_families)  
Browse resources and articles for parents who have adopted or who are considering adoption.

#### **Q&As**

- [focusonthefamily.com/family-q-and-a](http://focusonthefamily.com/family-q-and-a)  
Browse our Q&As for advice and encouragement.

#### **Resource Lists**

- [focusonthefamily.com/family-q-and-a/resources-and-referrals](http://focusonthefamily.com/family-q-and-a/resources-and-referrals)  
Find recommended resources and referrals listed by topic, including:

**Fostering or Adopting Children From Difficult Backgrounds • RL012B •**

## Referrals

### **Focus on the Family's Adoption and Orphan Care Initiative**

8605 Explorer Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80920  
[icareaboutorphans.org](http://icareaboutorphans.org)

- Focus on the Family provides information about starting the adoption and foster care process, resource recommendations, and post-placement support.

### **Abba Fund**

P.O. Box 868049  
Plano, TX 75086  
888/775-3422  
[abbafund.org](http://abbafund.org)

- This ministry provides adoption assistance for Christian families.

### **Bethany Christian Services**

800/238-4269  
[bethany.org](http://bethany.org)

- This nonprofit cares for children around the globe and offers family support, adoption efforts, pregnancy counseling, and more.

### **Chinese Children Adoption International**

6920 South Holly Circle  
Centennial, CO 80112  
303/850-9998  
[ccaifamily.org](http://ccaifamily.org)

- CCAI supports orphan care in China and provides international and domestic adoption services and resources.

### **Christian Alliance for Orphans**

6723 Whittier Avenue, Suite 202  
Mclean, VA 22101  
[christianalliancefororphans.org](http://christianalliancefororphans.org)

- The website includes referrals for member churches as well as agencies and ministries involved in adoption, foster care, global orphan care, and advocacy.

### **Holt International Children's Services**

250 Country Club Road  
Eugene, OR 97401  
888/355-4658  
[holtinternational.org](http://holtinternational.org)

- This Christian organization specializes in international adoption and provides post-placements services.

### **Lifesong for Orphans**

P.O. Box 40  
Gridley, IL 61744  
309/747-4527  
[lifesongfororphans.org](http://lifesongfororphans.org)

- Lifesong mobilizes the Church to care for orphans, and they help families with financial implications of adoption.

### **Loving Shepherd Ministries**

P.O. Box 375  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
260/824-9000  
[loving-shepherd.org/working-with-adoption](http://loving-shepherd.org/working-with-adoption)

- This organization offers no-cost assistance to families considering domestic and international adoption.

**National Council for Adoption**

225 North Washington Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

703/299-6633

[adoptioncouncil.org](http://adoptioncouncil.org)

- This adoption advocacy nonprofit promotes a culture of adoption through education, research, and legislative action. They maintain a member list of agencies across the United States.

**Show Hope**

P.O. Box 647

Franklin, TN 37065

615/550-5600

[showhope.org](http://showhope.org)

- Show Hope cares for orphans and helps families navigate the financial challenges of adoption.

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Please note that Focus on the Family doesn't necessarily endorse all of the outside organizations you might find through the links above; they're listed for informational purposes only. If you have any questions or concerns about a particular organization, we encourage you to contact them directly.