

**It's Our Move**  
**Orphan Sunday**  
November 8, 2009

**1. OPEN OUR EYES TO THE PROBLEM.**

- **Worldwide: 143 million orphans.**
- **United States: 496,000 orphans.**
- **Missouri: 9,100 orphans.**
- **St. Louis: 3,500 orphans.**

*"Rescue those who are unjustly sentenced to die; save them as they stagger to their death. Don't excuse yourself by saying, 'Look, we didn't know.' For God understands all hearts, and He sees you. He will repay all people as their actions deserve."* Proverbs 24:11-12 (NLT)

*"Rescue the perishing; don't hesitate to step in and help. If you say, 'Hey, that's none of my business,' will that get you off the hook? Someone is watching you closely, you know –Someone not impressed with weak excuses." Proverbs 24:11-12 (The Message)*

**2. OPEN OUR MINDS TO THE TRUTH.**

*"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..." Deuteronomy 10:17-18 (NIV)*

*"Say to him: 'Forgive all our sins and receive us graciously...for in you the fatherless find compassion.'" Hosea 14:2-3 (NIV)*

*"His name is the Lord...a father to the fatherless, and defender of widows... God sets the lonely in families." Psalms 68:4-6 (NIV)*

*"God decided in advance to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ. This is what He wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure." Ephesians 1:5 (NLT)*

*"So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as His own children. Now we call Him, 'Abba Father'" Romans 8:15 (NLT)*

**3. OPEN OUR HEARTS TO THE SOLUTION.**

*"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world." James 1:27 (NIV)*

- **Relieve their hurt.**

*"For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me." Matthew 25:35-36 (NLT)*

- **Defend their rights.**

*"Learn to do good. Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the cause of the orphans. Fight for the rights of widows." Isaiah 1:17 (NLT)*

*"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ensure justice for those being crushed. Yes, speak up for the poor and helpless, and see that they get justice." Proverbs 31:8-9 (NLT)*

- **Provide them homes.**

*"To him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin." James 4:17 (NKJV)*