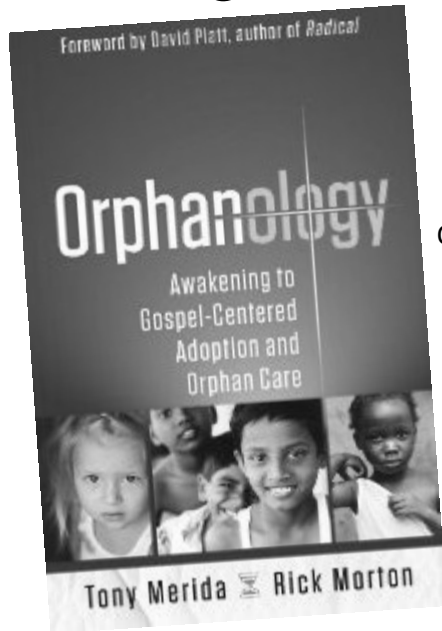


Wanna go to the next level?



Much of what Pastor Terry is sharing over the next few weeks comes from the ideas presented in this book, *Orphanology* by Tony Merida and Rick Morton.

You can get a copy of this book at Family Christian stores (by Target on Miller Rd.) or online at Amazon. Digital copies are available sometimes as low as \$2.99.

Additional Resources:

Bethany Christian Services
www.bethany.org

All God's Children
www.allgodschildren.org

Hope for the Fatherless
www.centralnazarene.com



Why is it so important that we consider our role in taking care of orphans in our world?

How is **adoption** of children so intricately connected to our own **spiritual journey**? [Romans 8:23, 9:4; Galatians 4:5; Ephesians 1:5]

"Pure and undefiled religion before God the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their misfortune and to keep oneself unstained by the world."

[James 1:27 NET]

Common **roadblocks** to adoption and **orphan care**?

What can **MY response** to this challenge look like?



You can listen or share this sermon online!

Digging Deeper

[Use these readings to prepare you for worship next week!]

Monday: 11.12.2012

Prayer Focus: Our church

Passage: Deuteronomy 24:17-22

Insight: As we begin our new series on orphan care, today's passage reminds us that this isn't a new issue. God is establishing the rules of the land that will help the new nation of Israel know how to function and work with each other. As this is taking place, He clearly puts laws in place to protect those who have no other way of protecting themselves.

What do these words tell us about God's character? How do you respond to the call to be people of justice?

Tuesday: 11.13.2012

Prayer Focus: Our Leadership Team

Passage: Galatians 3:26 - 4:7

Insight: As we consider the vitality of orphan care and adoption, we can't look beyond the fact that WE have been adopted spiritual. The metaphor that God uses to express our entrance into His family is best seen through adoption.

Have you ever considered your access to the family of God came through adoption? How does that make you feel to have all the rights and privileges to God's kingdom just like a natural born son or daughter?

Wednesday: 11.14.2012

Prayer Focus: Our National Leaders

Passage: Psalm 82

Insight: As you read this Psalm, see the difference between the unjust and wicked and how the writer speaks of the fatherless and oppressed. Sometimes as we go about life, it feels like the most undeserving and wicked people get all the breaks while those who have gone through so much get left out and abandoned.

God calls us to be a part of defending the weak and fatherless. God wants to use us to stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves. How might God be showing you how to do this?

Thursday: 11.15.2012

Prayer Focus: Your School (teachers, admin, etc)

Passage: Isaiah 1:17-20

Insight: Isaiah has been ushered into the presence of God and He is warning the people to get rid of their empty religious rituals and get back to meaningful expressions of God's grace and mercy.

Earlier in this passage (11) God says "I've had enough burnt offerings" and then he says (16) how we must put our faith into action (wash, stop, seek, etc). What could change in your life in this same way?

Friday: 11.16.2012

Prayer Focus: Our Children's Ministry (baby - 6th gr)

Passage: Romans 8:12-17

Insight: We are not to be slaves to sin. We are better than that. We are children—adopted children—of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords! Nothing can tell us what to do except our Daddy (Abba Father). We our Father rejoices, we rejoice with Him. When our big brother Jesus suffers, we join Him in that suffering. Either way, we are not alone! We have a family that nothing can defeat! Praise the Lord! Take time today to thank the Lord for your adoption and your place in His family!

iPray

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Email mak@flushingcommunity.org today!!*