

HEART Tools for a Successful Orphan Ministry

H – Humble yourself before God.

- Pray and study God’s Word as to how God would have you and your family involved in orphan ministry.
- Pray for how God would have your church and its leadership involved in orphan ministry.
- Bible Verses for Orphan Ministry:
 - Key Verse for FBCH Orphan Care Ministries: **James 1:27**
 - Old Testament Verses: Deuteronomy 24:19; Psalm 10:17-18; 27:10; 68:5-6; 82:3; 146:9; Isaiah 1:17; Hosea 14:3.
 - New Testament Verses: Matthew 18:5; 25:40; Mark 10:13-16; John 14:18; Romans 8:14-16; Romans 8:28; Galatians 4:4-6; James 1:27.

E – Explore possibilities.

- Gather statistics and information on children and families in need in your area.
 - Department of Children and Families: <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us>
 - Kids Count: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/>
- Identify and approach the appropriate church leader.
 - Share your burden for orphan ministry.
 - Brainstorm possible next steps to develop the ministry.
 - Pray together for God’s guidance.
- Identify and enlist like-minded church members.
- Begin exploring and formulating orphan care ministry ideas for your church, such as:
 - FBCH Mother’s Day Offering
<http://www.fbchomes.org/1/mdo.html>
 - Foster Care Support Ministries
http://www.fbchomes.org/1/foster_care.html
 - Adoption Care Ministries
<http://www.fbchomes.org/1/adoptions.html>
 - International Orphan Care Ministries
http://www.fbchomes.org/1/international_childcare_missions.html
 - Safe Families Orphan Care Ministries
http://www.fbchomes.org/1/safe_families.html
 - Sanctity of Human Life Ministries
http://www.fbchomes.org/1/sanctity_of_human_life.html

A – Align your church with the vision God has given you.

- Develop a vision statement and plan for your church’s orphan ministry.
- Share this vision and plan with your church.
- Continue to pray for God’s leadership and direction.

R – Resources: Gather the needed resources, materials, and information.

- Partner with agencies like Florida Baptist Children’s Homes.
- Secure necessary funding.
- Engage community resources.

T – Take action.

- Communicate the vision and plan.
 - Host a “Launch Sunday” in your church.
 - Inform the community.
 - Update the church and community regularly.
- Begin implementation of the plan.
- Continue to pray and submit to God’s leadership.