Harness these ideas to take the next steps

Thousands of churches in at least 24 countries celebrate Orphan Sunday. After experiencing Orphan Sunday, you may be asking ‘What should we do next in response to God’s heart for the fatherless?’

There are an estimated 1.6 million orphans in Zimbabwe, and as the church, it is our mandate to care for them (James 1:27). The Christian Alliance for Orphans unites Christian organisations and churches, working together to inspire, equip and connect Christians to “defend the fatherless” in local church community. Your church can be part of the solution by reflecting God’s heart through adoption, foster care and national orphan care.

We have included a great resource guide for orphan care ministries called “Journeys of Faith” on the enclosed CD, and other books on the Biblical foundation for orphan ministry are:-

- *Fields of the Fatherless* - Tom Davis
- *Adopted for Life* - Russel Moore
- *Journey to the Fatherless* - Lawrence Bergeron

Other great websites to visit are
- [www.christianalliancefororphans.org](http://www.christianalliancefororphans.org)
- [www.orphancareresources.org](http://www.orphancareresources.org)

‘..look after orphans and widows ..’ James 1:27
10 Ways Every Christian Can Care for the Orphan and Vulnerable Child.

1. **PRAY** for them
   
   Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.
   
   -Matthew 7:7-8

2. **SPEAK** up for them
   
   Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all the unfortunate. Open your mouth, judge righteously, and defend the rights of the afflicted and needy.
   
   -Proverbs 31:8-9

3. **PROVIDE** for their needs
   
   If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that?
   
   -James 2:15-16

4. **SUPPORT** those who support them
   
   and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds...
   
   -Hebrews 10:24

5. **PROTECT** them from harm
   
   The Lord protects the strangers; He supports the fatherless and the widow, but He thwarts the way of the wicked.
   
   -Psalm 146:9

6. **VISIT** them where they are
   
   Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of God is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.
   
   -James 1:27

7. **GIVE** sacrificially to them
   
   Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
   
   -2 Corinthians 9:7

8. **ENCOURAGE** them to press on
   
   We urge you brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.
   
   1 Thessalonians 5:14

9. **ADOPT** them into your family
   
   A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God is His holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families
   
   -Psalm: 68:5-6a NIV

10. **MOBILIZE** your church for them
    
    Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you.
    
    -Matthew 28:18-20