



Orphan Sunday

Orphan Sunday is a special day, an opportunity to make a real kingdom impact in the lives of vulnerable children and families. As you know, Better Together is on a mission to **strengthen families through community and work**. We took the liberty of pulling together some talking points that we hope you'll find useful when speaking about how the faithful can be the hands and feet of Jesus this Orphan Sunday.

Thank you for sharing the mission of Better Together with your congregation. Together, we can change the world.

TALKING POINTS

- Mark 9:36-37: Jesus took a child in his arms and said, "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me. . ."
- For centuries, the church stepped in to help orphans and widows. Government foster care programs in the U.S. came about in the early 1900s. Since then, the church's role has dwindled, and our government's \$9-billion-a-year foster care system is failing. It's stretched beyond capacity.
- Reports of children harmed in the foster care system are common, and its success rate of reunifying families only 47%.
- Established by the Christian Alliance for Orphans, Orphan Sunday is a powerful, globally unified day of recognition, celebration and action, when churches around the world celebrate God's heart for orphaned and vulnerable children.
- What can we do? We can partner with Better Together, a faith-based nonprofit that has helped more than 9,000 children.
- 98% of children served through hosting and mentoring reunite and stay out of the state system.
- The Better Together model builds family-like relationships between those who want to help and those who are hurting, building a community and deeper relationships that bring about better outcomes for everyone.
- The video by Better Together shows the need in our community and the ways its partner churches and volunteers come alongside families.
- To get involved, text FAMILY to 844-987-3949. You'll receive a link. Click it, fill out the short form and live the word of Jesus.