



Adoption Sunday Prayer



Joining with churches around UK, we want to pray for vulnerable children and those who care for them. We acknowledge that in this broken world, 35,000 children come into care each year. They, like us, are God's children, known and loved by Him. They, like us, each carry a story. And so we pray:

Father God, we thank you for adopting us into your family as dearly-loved children.

"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" (1 John 3.1)

God our Father.

Even when we were still sinners, ungrateful and undeserving, you opened your arms of love and invited us into relationship with you. Even while we can be disobedient and selfish, you cover us with grace and call us your children. Even though we have nothing to offer beside our hearts, you call us to purpose and want to use us to make a difference in this world.

Thank you, Father God, for adopting us into your family.

Affirm us, God our Father, as part of your great story.

Lord God, we pray for all those who care for vulnerable children.

We thank you for the privilege we have to serve you and be your hands and feet in this world. We pray specifically for those who open their homes, their lives or their hearts to vulnerable children – foster carers, adoptive parents, kinship carers, social workers, teachers, therapists and other professionals. Lord God would you strengthen, encourage and uphold each one.

As a church, would you use us to support families who foster or adopt and help us to be a place of welcome and acceptance. We pray now for families in this church and those who are known to us.

Show us how we can be part of their story as we stand with them.

“From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” (Ephesians 4.16)

Equip us, Lord God, to be part of their stories.

Lord Jesus, we pray for every child whose story is painful.

Lord Jesus, you are needed in every situation, in every circumstance, in every story, and we bring before you each child who has suffered.

Where there has been neglect, would you bring restoration and pour out your grace.

Where there has been abuse, would you bring healing and pour out your love.

Where there is loss and grief, would you bring wholeness and pour out your peace.

Where there is anger and hurt, would you bring comfort and pour out your hope.

Where there is confusion and the future is unsure, would you bring understanding and call your people to respond.

“We love because he first loved us.” (1 John 4.19)

Encourage us, Lord Jesus, to pray and to respond, to be part of making their story better in whatever way we can.

Holy Spirit, move in our hearts. **Inspire us to be part of the story.**

