





**"Do not take advantage of  
the widow or the fatherless."**

**Exodus 22:22**

**"He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing."**

**Deuteronomy 10:18**

**"Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow."**

**Isaiah 1:17**

## **Stats on the Fatherless - More than just Numbers**

**-400,540 children in the foster system in the U.S.**

**-115,000 eligible for permanent adoption**

**-27,000 age out of the system each year**

## **Children without a Father in the Home**

**90% of homeless and runaway children are from fatherless homes**

**71% of pregnant teenagers lack a father**

**71% high school dropouts are from fatherless homes**

**75% of adolescent patients in chemical treatment centers lack a father**

### **Children in Fatherless Homes**

- Have earlier and more frequent sexual activity**
- Have a dramatically greater risk of drug abuse**
- Are 11 times more likely to be violent in school**
- Are at a dramatically greater risk of being involved in violent crime**

### **How can the Church Respond?**

**"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."**

**John 1:14**

**"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"**

**The expert in the law replied, 'The one who had mercy on him.' Jesus told him, 'Go and do likewise.'"**

**Luke 10:36-37**

**Is there anything you would rather be in this life than the means of others having life through your dying?**

**Death is the only path to  
resurrection.**

