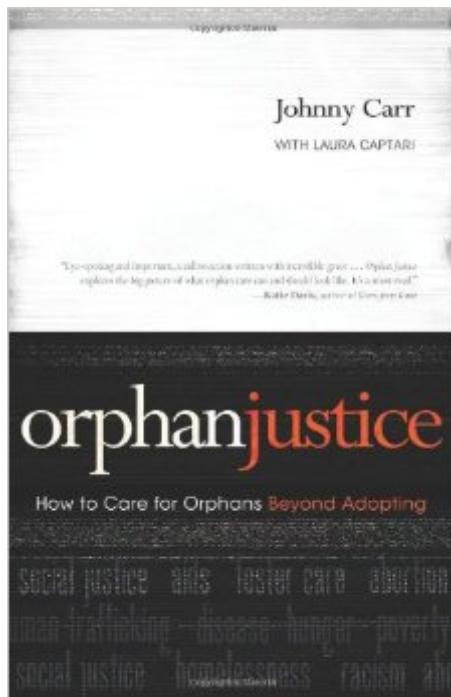


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Orphan Justice: How To Care For Orphans Beyond Adopting



Synopsis

Christians are clearly called to care for orphans, a group so close to the heart of Jesus. In reality, most of the 153 million orphaned and vulnerable children in the world do not need to be adopted, and not everyone needs to become an adoptive parent. However, there are other very important ways to help beyond adoption. Indeed, caring for orphaned and vulnerable children requires us to care about related issues from child trafficking and HIV/AIDS to racism and poverty. Too often, we only discuss or theologize the issues, relegating the responsibility to governments. No one can do everything, but everyone can do something. Based on his own personal journey toward pure religion, Johnny Carr moves readers from talking about global orphan care to actually doing something about it in *Orphan Justice*. Combining biblical truth with the latest research, this inspiring book: investigates the orphan care and adoption movement in the U.S. today; examines new data on the needs of orphaned and vulnerable children; connects liberal issues together as critical aspects of orphan care; discovers the role of the church worldwide in meeting these needs; develops a tangible, sustainable action plan using worldwide partnerships; fleshes out the why, what, and how of global orphan care; offers practical steps to getting involved and making a difference.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Orphan Justice is to the Christian family and church what 'The Purpose Driven Life' is to the Christian individual. Johnny Carr issued a deeply personal, well-researched, practical, and immensely compassionate challenge to faith-based persons and organizations of all stripes.

Advocating for marginalized children, women, and families, Carr is respectful and inclusive of different perspectives, yet unafraid to address polarized debates to seek a higher ground. What makes the book moving, non-partisan, and ultimately effective is Carr's unabashed honesty to be self-critical first and foremost. He does not pinpoint a single speck in our collective inaction without first removing the beam from his own eyes. The book weaves together the personal journey of the Carr family in adopting three deaf children, two from China and one from the U.S. - and Carr's professional journey as a Christian called to mission service. The narrative breaks the stereotypes and makes irrelevant the dividing trenches of "conservative", "evangelical", "liberal", "social justice". The story arcs towards a compassionate and broad understanding of Christ's call to serve orphans and widows. There are no cheaply constructed "villains". Even when describing very sad scenes in the orphanage, Carr speaks respectfully of the over-burdened caretakers and describe only his own reaction and the reaction of his newly adopted son. When was the last time you read a book that speaks respectfully both of Jerry Falwell and Barney Frank, all in service of the Christian call? You do not have to be a Christian to be moved by Carr family's journey.

"I used to think that if I cared about one thing, I'd have to care about everything." It's a line from one of my favorite movies but also describes my (selfish) attitude toward adoption and caring for the world's orphans. I love children, and the idea that there are children literally starving to death and dying from preventable diseases anywhere in the world breaks my heart. And I have been reluctant to open my heart to that kind of pain, afraid that I would become discouraged that I can't take them all home, love them like they ought to be loved, or provide for all their basic needs. So, I'm encouraged by a new book that challenges the Church's attitude about orphans and adoption, as well as offers varied ways the Church can be involved in orphan care, not only through adoption. In *Orphan Justice: How to Care for Orphans Beyond Adopting*, Johnny Carr, who works for the largest adoption and orphan care agency in the U.S., presents a case for the Church to do its part to care for orphaned children, domestically and globally. And he isn't always nice about it. Nor should he be. From the beginning of the book, Carr lays out the problem--153 million kids worldwide who have lost one or both parents, which is twice the total number of children in the U.S.--and reveals his own journey from American Dreamer to Orphan Advocate. "Every time I heard about missionaries digging clean wells, working with HIV/AIDS patients, or trying to alleviate poverty, I rolled my eyes. Why are they wasting their time? I thought. Don't they know that the gospel is what really counts? ... But now as I look back, I see how narrow-minded I was. ...

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