Children enter the foster care system for many reasons—parental drug use, neglect, abuse. Whatever the reason, these children have experienced great loss and trauma, and they need safe, peaceful environments to heal while their biological families seek the help they need to parent well. Other children across the continent and around the world are in need of permanent families through adoption. There are currently more children who need help than there are families willing to help. When families decide to foster or adopt, the journey ahead is a difficult one. Here are 20 ways all of us can pray for these families.

**The Children**
- Safe and loving homes in which to heal and grow
- The ability to trust and form attachments to new caregivers
- Consistent progress in the journey to permanency through adoption or return to a healthy birth family
- Strong support system for those who have aged out of foster care

**Biological Families**
- Support and encouragement as they work to reunify with their children or move forward without them
- Hope in Christ and redemption for their broken families
- Broken strongholds and patterns of addiction and abuse
- Healing from the trauma the family has faced

**Adoptive and Foster Families**
- That God will provide for all their emotional, financial and spiritual needs
- Family and friends who come around them with practical help and support
- Wisdom, strength, empathy and care in parenting children from hard places
- For children already in the home to understand and adapt to the changes

**Foster and Adoption Agencies**
- Wisdom and endurance for case workers
- Favor with government agencies and authorities
- Sufficient staff and volunteers to minister to the overwhelming number of children who need their help
- Counselors and therapists to find rest and hope in the Word of God

**The Church**
- Congregations would welcome adoptive and foster families without judgement
- Members to surround foster and adoptive families with love and practical support
- Education of the congregation and development of advocates who speak for those who are vulnerable
- Open hearts and homes willing to step up and help vulnerable children in a variety of ways

“Speak up for those who have no voice, for the justice of all who are dispossessed. Speak up, judge righteously, and defend the cause of the oppressed and needy” (Proverbs 31:8-9, HCSB).