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GOD LOVES ALL CHILDREN

Psalm 127:4-5; 1 Samuel 1:10-11, 20, 24-28; 2:18-21

• The Bible compares children to arrows, gifts from God that strengthen and protect families.

- Many children today have different family situations (single parents, stepparents, grandparents, foster care, etc.), similar to Samuel's.
- The truth: God loves all children, no matter what their family looks like. He knows each of them by name, and He's hoping they'll answer when He calls

Thank you, God, for always loving us no matter what our Ш family looks like. Help us to be like Samuel and to answer > ◁ when you call. Give us hearts that want to follow Your α ways. Amen. \cap

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GOD LOVES ALL FAMILIES Exodus 1:22; 2:1-10

• God miraculously intervened to protect Moses.

- Inspired Moses' mother's plan (the basket).
- Kept the basket safe on the river.
- Guided it to a woman who wanted a child.
- When families face challenges, MBCH works to maintain family unity whenever possible, mirroring God's actions with Moses.
- Family reunification is seen as a celebration of God's love.

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> Thank you, God, for taking care of families and for providing the care that we need. Whether it comes from an adopted family or our birth family. Help us to seek your guidance as Moses' mother did. Give us the courage to follow your ways during difficult times. Amen.

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GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE HELP FAMILIES IN NEED

2 Kings 4:1-7

• A family faced extreme hardship after their father's death, with the mother being too poor to care for them, putting them at risk of being sold as slaves.

- Elisha performed a miracle, providing the family with everything they needed.
- The church can act as "God's hands and feet" by helping families in need.

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Thank you, God, for seeing us in our time of need. Help us to be like Elisha and to follow where you lead. May we always be ready to lend a helping hand to those around us. Give us the courage and compassion to act when others are in need, and let us be vessels of your love and kindness in the world. Amen.

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GOD ADOPTS US AS HIS CHILDREN

Matthew 1:20-21, 24-25; Galatians 4:4-7

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- God chose Joseph for the unique role of adopting Jesus as his son, and Joseph agreed.
- His love for God motivated him to love and raise Jesus as his own child, despite the unusual family situation.
- > We can show care by being kind, sharing smiles, and being good friends, helping others feel welcome and loved, just as God welcomes us.

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Thank you, God, for providing a way for us to be adopted into your family. Thank you that you see what we need to feel welcomed and loved as part of your large family. Help us to show love to our family members everyday. Amen.

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PEOPLE IN THE CHURCH HELP ONE ANOTHER

2 Corinthians 8:1-5; 13-15; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; John 16:33

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- Within the church family, members support one another, sharing resources and offering help when needed.
- When we help each other, we act as the "hands and feet of Jesus," participating in God's work. Δ
- While MBCH provides special resources and support for children in need, the entire church is meant to actively invest in families' ⊲ well-being.

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Thank you, God, for providing ways for the church to help those in need. Guide us in using our talents and resources to be your hands and feet in helping children and families. Amen.

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