

Adoption & Foster Care Ministry

So You are Thinking About Adoption or Foster Care? What's Next?

Step 1 | Pray Pray Pray

Adoption is a life long commitment. Foster Care is a gift. Both can be rocky journeys so it is important that this is genuinely God's calling on your life. You've considered the unknowns and have questions. The answers begin with prayer. Please don't jump into this without the leading of the Holy Spirit.

At Johnson Ferry we have a Prayer Ministry with people ready and willing to pray with you and for you. We urge you to take advantage of their intercession for you. This ministry is confidential and can be reached 24 hours a day at 770-971-PRAY (7729). When you are ready to share your interest with others, enlist family and friends to pray for you as you start this journey. What an honor and privilege it is to pray for friends and/or family through this process.

Step 2 | Get on the Same Page

Bringing a child into your home requires a commitment from both spouses. If there are areas in your marriage that result in undo conflict, consider resolving these issues before moving forward. No marriage is perfect, but being like-minded is essential when considering adoption or foster care.

Step 3 | Talk With Us

Our Adoption and Foster Care Ministry wants to come alongside you in your journey. We have a team of people who want to meet you, have an open dialogue about your decision and help connect you with a support family/group that has been through a similar situation. Please contact [Bryan Hanson](#) or [Anne Brady](#).

Step 4 | Find an Agency

In order for the adoption or foster care process to begin we suggest you find an agency. We have relationships with several private agencies and the state of Georgia and would be happy to discuss their differences with you. (See list below.)

Step 5 | Do a Home Study

While adoption and foster care really begin in the heart, there's groundwork to be done. Filling out paper work and getting your house ready for a child's arrival are key. The home study is generally done through your agency, and although it sounds daunting, it's necessary and painless.

Step 6 | What About the Cost?

We are committed to partnering with you in your adoption or foster care journey. That includes assisting you financially. Yes, the costs can be great but there is help. Lifesong for Orphans is an adoption funding organization that facilitates distribution of designated funds to assist families with adoption. The Johnson Ferry Lifesong Partnership is set up to help cover some of your expenses with an interest-free loan or matching grant for qualifying families.

Step 7 | Share Your Story

What's your story and how might it enhance someone else's journey? Why did you decide to adopt or foster a child? Was the idea of adopting always part of your memory or has God moved in your life recently and you acted in obedience? Whatever the story, it's likely to provide hope and inspiration to others so share it!

EMBRACE | ENCOURAGE | ENGAGE

The one predictable thing about adoption and foster care is that the process is unpredictable. **Embrace** the Lord and the process, be **encouraged** by His word and **engage** in prayer. Know that we are here to help you through the process.

Johnson Ferry Prayer Line 770-971-PRAY (7729)

[Bryan Hanson](#) 678-718-1393
Global Ministry, Adoption & Foster Care

[Anne Brady](#) 678-784-5230
Global Ministry, Adoption & Foster Care

Georgia Division of Family & Child Services (DFCS)

• Adoption dfcs.georgia.gov/services/adoption
• Foster Care fostergeorgia.com

Bethany Christian Services bethany.org

Lifeline Children's Services lifelinechild.org

Lifesong for Orphans lifesong.org

FaithBridge faithbridgefostercare.org

Promise 686 promise686.org