

The OrphanCare Ministry at North Way is happy to make the following recommendations for further study.

Foster Care

Reframing Foster Care: Filtering Your Foster Parenting Journey Through the Lens of the Gospel – Jason Johnson

A collection of reflections on the foster parenting journey designed to help you find hope and to remind you that your work is worth it and you are not alone.

Faith to Foster: An All American Story of Loving the Least of These—T.J. and Jenn Menn A candid look into the life of ordinary foster parents. Chronicles the decision-making process, how the children arrived, the birth parents' struggle to rehabilitate, emotional goodbyes, and how faith in Jesus empowered them through it all.

Another Place at the Table—Kathy Harrison A frank and ultimately uplifting narrative of one woman's 13 year experience on the front lines as a foster parent.

Dignity and Worth, Seeing the Image of God in Foster Adoption—April Swiger Through a poignant telling of her own story, the author tackles common misconceptions of foster care and helps us reframe the discussion through the lens of the gospel – being reminded of the *Imago Dei* in each person in the process. Addresses race, trauma, relationships with birth parents, saying no to a placement, and more.

General Adoption

Adopted for Life – Russell D. Moore Written by an adoptive father and pastor, this book gives a real picture of the realities of adoption and practical advice, as well as showing how adoption reflects a greater Biblical reality. Great introductory book for anyone considering adoption.

Ready or Not -- Pam Parish Biblically centered, straightforward look at foster care and adoption that will help you consider the impact on your family, evaluate your motives, and explore foster care and adoption through the lens of Scripture while helping you discern your call.

The Whole Life Adoption Book – Jayne Schooler & Thomas Atwood Insights into every aspect of adoption. This powerful resource addresses the needs and concerns facing adoptive parents, while offering encouragement for the journey ahead.

The Children Who Raised Me –Shivonne Costa A personal memoir with both hilarious and heart-breaking truths on parenting. Chronicling the author's extraordinary journey through infertility, foster care, adoption, the loss of a child, and raising children with attachment disorders.

Adoptee's Perspective

Being Adopted, A Lifelong Search for Self - David Brodzinsky & Robin Henig Based on studies of adoptees, this book gives insight into various ages and seasons and what questions and feelings adoptees may have. A great aid for helping prospective/adoptive parents understand the adoptee's perspective.

Closure, Angela Tucker Documentary – A transracial adoptee finds her birth family after 26 years of secrecy.

Open Adoption

Lifegivers: Framing the Birthparent Experience in Open Adoption – *Jim Gritter* Excellent for those considering infant adoption/open adoption. Gives the invaluable and often missed perspective of birthparents.

Making Room In Our Hearts – *Micky Duxbury* Based on interviews with more than one hundred adopted children, birth and adoptive parents, extended families, professionals and experts, the book is an effective and invaluable resource for those considering open adoption and those experiencing it. Full of real life stories that show you how to focus on a child-centered adoption.

The Open Hearted Way to Open Adoption – *Lori Holden* Open adoption is more than exchanged photos and visits it's a lifestyle that may be difficult at times. This book covers common open-adoption situations and how real families have navigated these issues successfully. More than a how-to, this book shares a mindset, a heartset, that can be learned and internalized, so parents can learn to act out of love and honesty.

International Adoption

Parenting Your Internationally Adopted Child -- *Patty Cogen* Practical advice for parents of internationally adopted children from preparations for your first meeting through the teens years. Excellent for reference. Raw examples of challenges that may be faced.

Toddler / Older Child Adoption

Toddler Adoption: The Weaver's Craft – *Mary Hopkins-Best* Support and practical tools to help parents prepare for and support the toddler's transition from one home to the new, unfamiliar one. Considers the issues that arise at different developmental stages. and gives positive guidance on how to overcome them.

Transracial Adoption

In Their Voices: Black Americans on Transracial Adoption -- *Rhonda Roorda* Packed with advice for parents who are invested in nurturing a positive self-image in their adopted children of color and the crucial perspectives those parents should consider when raising their children. It offers encouragement in overcoming discrimination and explains why a "race-neutral"/color blind environment is not ideal for adoptees or their families.

Inside Transracial Adoption – *Gail Steinberg & Beth Hall* Honesty and authentic look at adoption and race. Acknowledging white identity issues for transracial adopters and demonstrating predictable milestones in the journey to adulthood for transracially adopted kids.

I'm Chocolate, You're Vanilla – *Marguerite White* With wisdom and compassion, this book spells out how to educate black and biracial children about race, while preserving their innate resilience and optimism--the birthright of all children.

Post Adoption Parenting

Nurturing Adoptions – *Deborah Gray* Based on research on the impact of neglect, abuse, early trauma, and institutionalization on the developing brains of children to assist parents in healing their children and guiding them into strong and healthy relationships and productive adulthood.

Telling the Truth to Your Adopted or Foster Child – Jayne Schooler & Betsy Keefer Great book outlining how to present the difficult facts surrounding a child’s placement for adoption in age appropriate ways through the years. Great reference book.

Attaching in Adoption –Deborah Gray Sound theory, research outcomes and sensitive encouragement, with calming support and practical tools for families of adopted children who have challenges in attachment because of neglect, grief, abuse, or prenatal exposure to substances.

Parenting the Hurt Child – Keck, Kupecky, & Mansfield The world is full of hurt children, and bringing one into your home can quickly derail the easy family life you once knew. Get effective suggestions, wisdom, and advice to parent the hurt child in your life. The best hope for tragedy prevention is knowledge!

The Out of Sync Child & The Out of Sync Child Has Fun– Carol Stock Kranowitz Great reference for Sensory Processing Disorder, a common but frequently misdiagnosed problem in which the central nervous system misinterprets messages from the senses. Includes info from research on vision and hearing deficits, motor skill problems, nutrition, and picky eaters, ADHA, autism, and other related disorders. // . . . ***Child Has Fun*** – more than 100 playful activities for kids with SPD

Raising Your Spirited Child – Mary Sheedy Kurcinka Emotional support and proven strategies for parents in handling the spirited (difficult, strong willed) child.

Beyond Consequences, Logic and Control – Heather Forbes & B. Bryan Post Details the effects of trauma on the body-mind and how trauma alters children’s behavioral responses. Includes sections on common behaviors seen in attachment-challenged children and how to foster healing. Easy to read and understand

I Love You Rituals –Becky A Bailey More than seventy rhymes and games that send the message of unconditional love and enhance children’s social, emotional, and school success and connection with parents. For kids 0-8 years.

The Whole Brain Child –Daniel J. Siegel & Tina Payne Bryson Revolutionary approach to child rearing with twelve key strategies that foster healthy brain development, leading to calmer, happier children. Age-appropriate strategies for dealing with day-to- day struggles and illustrations that help you explain these concepts to your child.

No Drama Discipline – Siegel and Bryson Highlighting the fascinating link between a child’s neurological development and the way a parent reacts to misbehavior. An effective, compassionate road map for dealing with tantrums, tensions, and tears—without causing a scene. Focusing on discipline rather than punishment.

The Connected Child – Karyn Purvis Children with special needs or difficult pasts may be damaged in many ways, which still affect them even as the events of the past are over. This book will challenge everything you know about parenting in a good way. It provides tools to help your child adjust to his surroundings in a loving manner. Includes setting limits, handling hurtful behavior, sensory integration treatment, listening skills, redirection, eye-contact, role of neurotransmitters, seeing misbehavior as opportunity, providing corrections, do-overs, and more.

Wounded Children, Healing Homes: How Traumatized Children Impact Adoptive and Foster Families – Jayne Schooler Families often enter into this experience with high expectations for their child and for themselves but are broadsided by shattered assumptions. This book addresses the reality of those unmet expectations and offers validation and solutions for the challenges of parenting deeply traumatized and emotionally disturbed children.