

## **Instant Family**

Sunday, October 20, 2019
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Stepping Stones Community Church

- 1. God cares for all who are <u>lost</u>, marginalized and oppressed
  - God may be calling you to <u>foster</u> or <u>adopt</u> a child... <u>or not</u>
  - All believers are called to care for people

Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you.

James 1:27 NLT

Owe nothing to anyone—except for your obligation to love one another. If you love your neighbor, you will fulfill the requirements of God's law.

Romans 13:8 NLT

## 2. When you invest your love in others ...

- You will face <u>hardship</u> and <u>setbacks</u>
- Loving others is <u>rewarding</u> and <u>fulfilling</u>

God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. James 1:12 NLT

## 3. As a follower of Christ, you are God's <a href="mailto:adopted">adopted</a> child

God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.

Ephesians 1:5 NLT

Next Steps:
☐ Accept God's call to love and invest in
☐ Commit to keep loving and investing in my relationships no matter what problems I face
☐ Accept my place in God's family as a child who is loved and wanted by God
☐ Spend time this week investing in my relationship with