

“For Such a Time as This” - *Milt Herrold*  
(Stand Sunday 2023)

**Introduction:** Children in foster care need loving adults in their lives, people who will love them for who they are, not from where they have come from. They need people who will patiently build a genuine relationship of trust with them. They need someone who will faithfully hold them accountable to the truth that God has created them and called them to a life of purpose, so they can relationally bless someone else. We want to lovingly help them, so that one day they can lovingly help someone else.

**Questions to Consider:**

- What is the best way to attract persons who will love and be involved in the lives of vulnerable children?
- How does God feel about adoption?
- What is our common call in Christ regarding children in need?

**Prayer:**

**Scripture Text:** Esther 2:5-7

**What I hope to share with you today:**

- Discipleship rather than recruitment, both in building a care community and in building into the lives of vulnerable children, is a better model to follow.
- A look at the connection between the Gospel and Adoption.
- God’s purpose for children coming into our homes (the immediate need and the longview).
- Christians, adopted by God, have a common calling and a unique calling.

**Points to Ponder:**

- Mordecai finds himself in a kinship adoption with his cousin Hadassah.
  - His own life was in turmoil as a captive of war when he recognized the greater need of this young girl who lost father and mother (perhaps also in the captivity of Jerusalem). (Esther 2:6)
  - Our own lives are not always in perfect order when the need arises in the life of a child for a loving, trustworthy adult.
- Discipleship rather than recruitment.
  - Mordecai models this with the child Hadassah.
    - He takes her into his home and trains her up as if she were his own daughter (Esther 2:7a)
    - As we love vulnerable children we want to prayerfully seek to disciple them in Jesus in whatever opportunities God provides to us.
  - Also within your church, it is better to bring people into your Care Community or other ministry through discipleship rather than through recruitment.
    - Why?



- A look at the connection between the Gospel and Adoption. God is an adoptive Father.
- God's purpose for children coming into our homes (the immediate need and the longview).
- Christians, adopted by God, have a common calling and a unique calling. As you are faithful to your common calling, it is likely that your unique calling will become more evident to you.

**Did we answer our questions:**

- What is the best way to attract persons who will love and be involved in the lives of vulnerable children? (Disciple them)
- How does God feel about adoption? (It is important to Him. He adopts all who are in Christ)
- What is our common call in Christ regarding children in need? (As we walk by faith in Jesus we are to care for those children who need a loving family)

**Prayer:**

**Closing Thought:** As disciples of Jesus, we want to lovingly help and prepare (disciple) vulnerable children, so that one day they can lovingly help (disciple) someone else.