

JAMES CRUISE MINISTRIES

“God chooses what we go through. We choose how we go through it.”

CHILDREN OF SINGLE PARENTS

- 49% of family's in Mississippi are led by single parents
- Nationally 40% of family's are led by single parents
- 50% of babies born in Mississippi are born to un-wed mothers
- Nationally 40% of babies born are born to un-wed mothers
- 1 million children each year become children of single parents in the U.S.
- 20 million children under the age of 18 live in single parent homes in the U.S.
- 95% of single mothers are unchurched, thus their children are usually unchurched.

Statistically, a child in a single-parent household is far more likely to experience violence, commit suicide, continue a cycle of poverty, become drug dependent, commit a crime or perform below his peers in education.

- 63 percent of suicides nationwide are individuals from single-parent families.
- 75 percent of children in chemical dependency hospitals are from single-parent families.
- More than half of all youths incarcerated in the U.S. lived in one-parent families as a child

According to the Single Parent Success Foundation, a national nonprofit that encourages educational opportunities for single parents:

What the children of single parents want you to know...

Children hate divorce.

Children tend to think that they are the cause of the divorce or separation.

They hate 2 homes, 2 sets of parents, 3 or 4 adults telling them what to do instead of two parents.

They hate being forced to move between their parent's homes.

Their lives are more complicated and stressful now.

They love and need both of their parents. Please don't fight or put my other parent down!

Letter from a child of single parents:

Dear Daddy,

I miss you! I cry at night in my bed so Mama doesn't get sad. Are you ok? Where do you sleep? When will I see you? Mama said you'd meet me at McDonald's next Friday. Don't forget!

Love, Me

From "The Switching Hour" by Evon O. Flesberg

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Ministries for Children of Single Parents & Step-Families

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Divorce Care for Kids www.DC4K.org www.facebook.com/dc4kcornerstonefmc
Divorce Care 4 Kids www.facebook.com/divorcecareforkids
I Am a Child of Divorce www.facebook.com/iamachildofdivorce

Books for Children of Single Parents & Step-Families

Children—Divorce

Two Homes by Claire Masurel
Standing On My Two Own Feet by Tamara Schmitz
It's Not Your Fault, Koko Bear by Vicki Lansky
Dinosaurs Divorce by Krasny Brown
The Divorce Express by Paula Danzinger
I Don't Want to Talk About It by Jeanie Franz Ransom
When Mom and Dad Divorce: A Kid's Resource by Elf Help Books
At Daddy's On Saturday by Linda Walvoord Girard
Loon Summer by Barbara Santucci
Mama and Daddy Bear's Divorce by Maude Spelman
Rope Burn by Jan Siebold
Was It the Chocolate Pudding? by Sandra Levins and Bryan Langdo

Children—Death or Death of a Parent

I Miss You by Pat Thomas
The Invisible String by Patrice Karst & Geoff Stevenson
Samatha Janes's Missing Smile by Julie Kaplow, Donna Pincus & Beth Spiegel
When Your Grandparent Dies by Victoria Ryan & R.W. Alley
The Next Place by Warren Hanson
When Bad Things Happen: A Guide to Help Kids Cope by Elf Help Books
Divorce Is Not the End of the World: Zoe's and Evan's Coping Guide for Kids by Zoe Stern & Evan Stern

Children—Step-Families / Blending Families

All Families Are Special by Norma Simon
Do You Sing Twinkle?: A Story About Remarriage and New Family by Sandra Levins & Bryan Langdo
The Step-Tween Survival Guide: How to Deal with Life in a Stepfamily by Lisa Cohn & Debbie Glasser, Ph.D.
Chelsea's Tree Story for Step Children and Stepkids by Marcy McCann & Pamela Gardner
My Bonus Mom: Taking the Step Out of Stepmom by Tami Butcher, Feras Nouf & Bill Engvall
Help! A Girl's Guide to Divorce and Stepfamilies by Nancy Holyoke
Jessica's Two Families: Helping Children Learn to Cope with Blended Households (Let's Talk) by Lynne Hugo
by Lynne Hugo LPCC and Adam Gordon
There's Only One of Me! By Pat Hutchins
What Am I Doing In a Step-Family? By Claire Berman
Where Do I Belong?: A Kid's Guide to Stepfamilies by Buff Bradley

Children—Bible

The Children's Bible by Golden Books & Jose Miralles
A Child's First Bible by Kenneth Nathaniel Taylor
The Children's Bible by Sally Tagholm
The Jesus Storybook Bible by Sally Lloyd-Jones
Early Reader's Bible by V. Gilbert Beers
Bedtime Bible Story Book: 365 Read-Aloud Stories From the Bible by Daniel Partner & Kathy Arbuckle

Books can be dangerous. The best ones should be labeled "This could change your life." Helen Exley