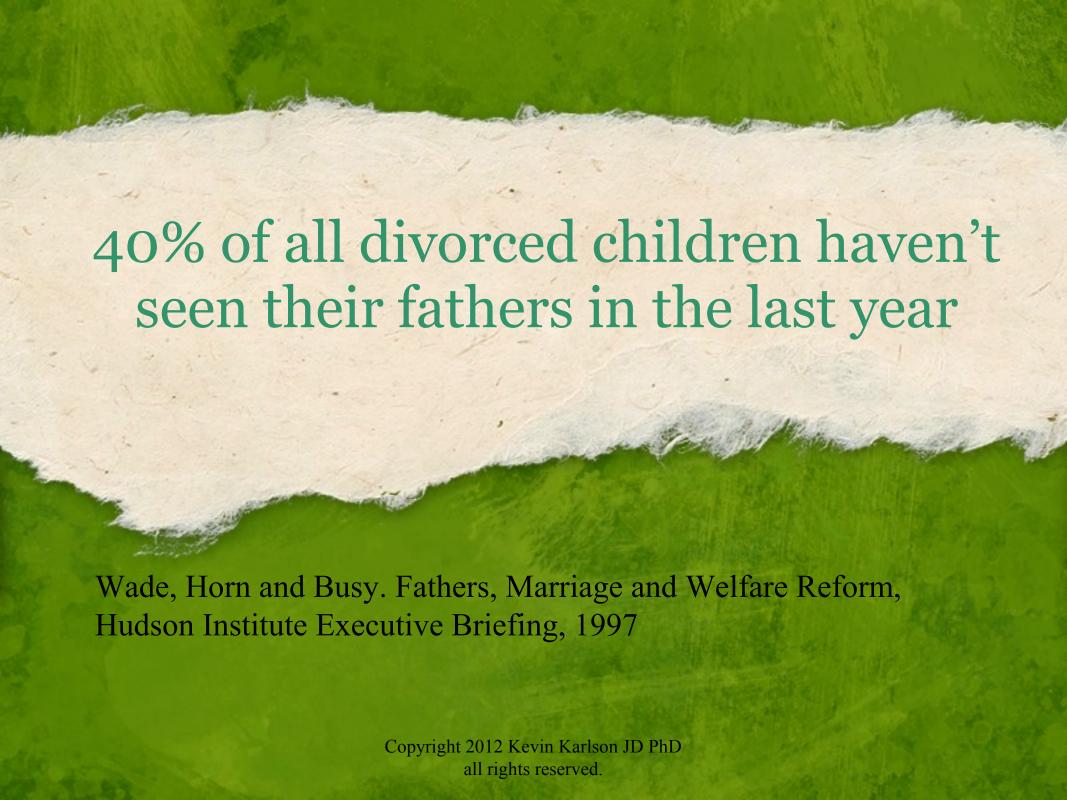
Children of Divorce: Meeting the Needs of the Fatherless

Mobilizing the Faith Community to Action

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50% of all the children born to married parents today will experience the divorce of their parents before they are 18 years old.

Fagan, Fitzgerald, Rector
"The Effects of Divorce On America"



Risks to Children of Divorce

- 1. Four times more like to have problems with peers
- 2. Three times more likely to need counseling
- 3. Two times more likely to drop out of school
- 4. As adults, two times more likely to be suicidal

Risks to Children of Divorce

- 1. More problems with school performance
- 2. More emotional and psychological problems
- 3. More likely to be overly aggressive (boys)
- 4. More likely to lonely, unhappy, anxious, insecure more than 5 years after the divorce

Risks to Father-absent Children

- 1. Four times more likely to be poor
- 2. More likely to have behavior problems
- 3. Mother is more likely to be depressed
- 4. More likely to experience asthma/respiratory illnesses

Risks to Father-absent Children

- 1. More likely to be victim of abuse
- 2. More likely to be sexually active as a teen
- 3. More likely to abuse drugs/alcohol
- 4. More likely to end up in jail

Risks to the Church

- 1. 62% of divorced kids reject the faith of their parents
- 2. 37% of these children will not worship regularly, and 60% will leave the church
- 3. People under 30 are 20% of the US population but 31% of people "unaffiliated with any church"
- 4. Only 1 in 5 Christians understand that "salvation is by faith alone"





Mentoring Works

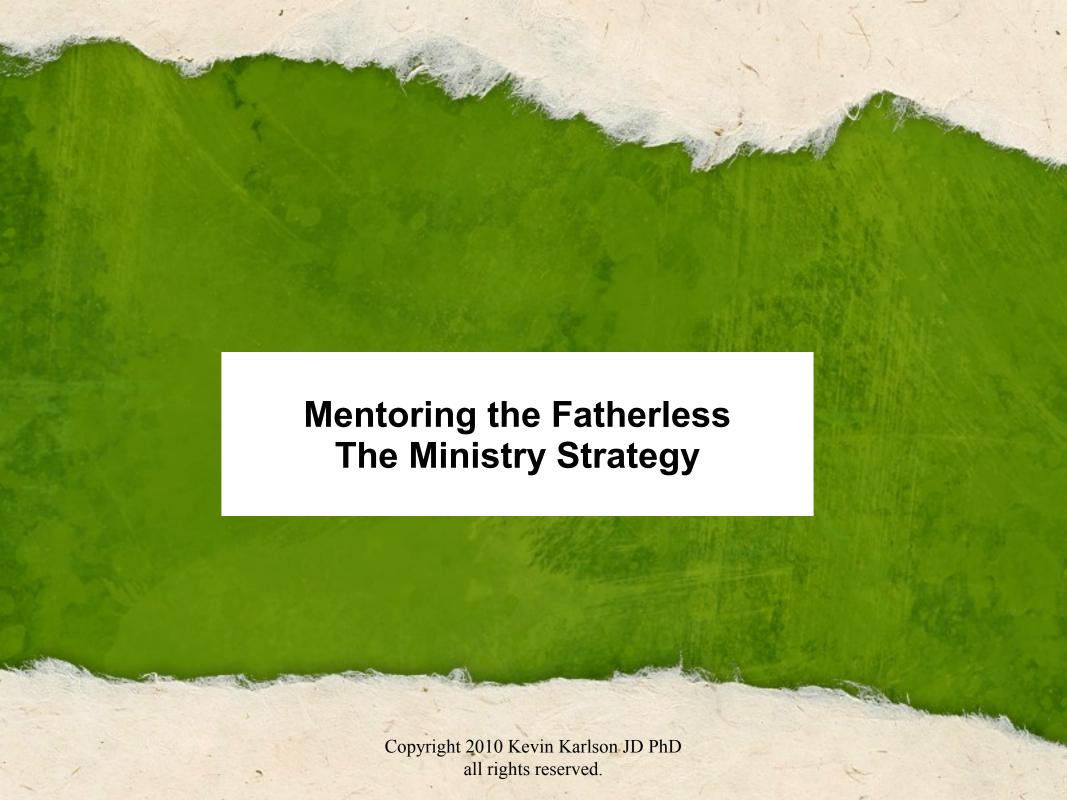
Research shows that kids who spend time regularly with a caring adult mentor <u>for at least one year</u> are:

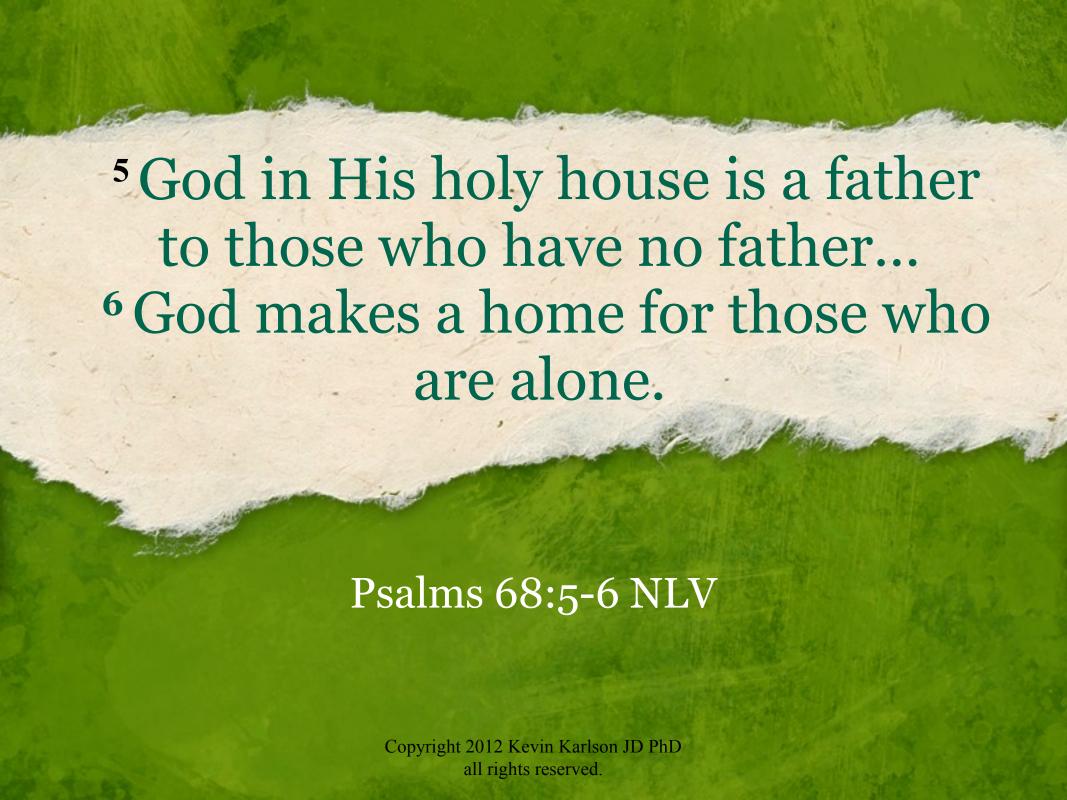
- 1. 46% less likely to start using illegal drugs
- 2. 27% less likely to start drinking
- 3. 52% less likely than their peers to skip a day of school
- 4. 37% less likely to skip a class
- 5. 33% less likely to hit someone
- 6. More trusting of their parents or guardians
- 7. Five times more likely to graduate from high school

Does it last? Adults who had a mentor through Big Brothers Big Sisters compared to non-participant peers: 1.75% more likely to have college degree 2.39% more likely to have household incomes of \$75,000 or more. 3. More likely than non-alumni to be engaged in their community Copyright 20102 Kevin Karlson JD PhD all rights reserved.









Mentoring the Fatherless The Ministry Strategy

Phase 1

- · Get Gateway buy-in
- Recruit /screen potential mentors
- Identify potential mentees
- •Hold mentor training workshop (8-10 hours)
- Match mentors to mentees

Mentoring the Fatherless

Phase 2

- •Develop strategic plan for Mentoring/Leadership event at Cowboys Stadium
- Engage other DFW mega-churches
- Engage business partners
- Develop detailed business/marketing plan for the event

Mentoring the Fatherless: The Ministry Strategy

Phase 3

- Execute Cowboys Stadium event
- Plan media coverage
- Repeat in top 10 US cities
- Plan for world-wide expansion