



5 Practical Steps to Protect Children

1. **Recognize the indescribable value of children:** Children will never be protected until we value them as God does.
2. **Seek out like-minded souls:** Find others who are passionate about protecting children and want to do something about it. We will be far more successful in protecting children when we are not going about it alone.
3. **Become educated:** It is so important that those who want to protect children become educated on the variety of issues related to the abuse of children. This doesn't require us to become child abuse "experts." It does require that we invest some time reading some good books on the subject and learning from the experts.
<http://www.netgrace.org> provides a list of some of the best books available on the subject.
4. **Be a Resource:** Becoming a child protection resource (NOT an expert) to your church community will help you be a conduit for providing child-protection resources. Knowing where to find the right resources and assistance is itself a vital resource.

Examples:

- Child protection policy
 - Seek out and organize child protection training for your church.
 - Ask the pastor to preach on the issue of sexual abuse.
5. **Speak out:** As you become more acquainted with the dynamics of sexual abuse, you will be in a good position to identify questionable behaviors that need to be addressed. Don't be silenced!

<http://boz.religionnews.com/2014/05/09/can-practical-steps-protection/>