

MEDIA RELEASE

For release 1 November 2026

Toowoomba pastor says most Christians know they are forgiven but few know they are family

New book Adopted: Taking Your Place in the Family of God reads the Lord's Prayer as a family constitution, with a foreword by Church of the Highlands executive pastor Layne Schranz.

Toowoomba, Queensland. After more than thirty years of pastoring, Ken Wootton has watched a pattern repeat itself: forgiven people who live like orphans. "They work for a love they already have," he says. "They beg for things that are already theirs. They tiptoe around a Father who has thrown the doors open."

His new book, *Adopted: Taking Your Place in the Family of God* (The Positive Difference Group, 1 November 2026), takes the prayer Jesus taught and reads it slowly, the way you would read a family document. Our Father. Your Kingdom. Give us. Forgive us. Deliver us. Yours is the Kingdom. From those lines Wootton draws out four things he says every believer needs to settle: their position in God's family, their rights as a member of it, their obligations to it, and how money works inside it.

"You did not sneak into the family of God," the back cover reads. "You were adopted into it."

The foreword is written by Layne Schranz, Executive Pastor of Church of the Highlands in Birmingham, Alabama, and Vice President of Highlands College Leadership Institute, whose own family was formed by adoption. "When I first read what Ken has written here, it did not read like theology to me," Schranz writes. "It read like my own biography, dressed in Scripture."

Written in the plain language of a Sunday morning, each of the ten chapters closes with reflection questions, a prayer and a set of faith confessions. A ten session small group guide is included, and a free sermon series kit, kids curriculum and promotional pack are available to churches at adoptedbook.au.

Wootton is Senior Pastor and Board Chairman of Highlands Church in Toowoomba, where a congregation of a few hundred has become a church family of more than four thousand since 2012. He is Chancellor and Chair of Christian Heritage College, serves on the National Executive of the International Network of Churches, and founded INC Invest, a charitable lending fund that has grown beyond seventy million dollars to help churches build and plant.

ENDORSEMENTS

"Ken reminds us that we aren't outsiders trying to earn our way in; we are sons and daughters who have been given a seat at the Father's table and entrusted with His Kingdom work." Lee Domingue, Legacy Pastor, Church of the Highlands; Founder, Kingdom Builders US

“Adopted is a short, engaging and practical read that beautifully explores what it means to know God as Father and find our place in His family.” Ross Abraham, Chairman, International Network of Churches

“This book is refreshing in its simplicity, profound in its teaching and helpful for every believer.” Geoff Woodward, Senior Pastor, Metrochurch; Deputy National Chairman, International Network of Churches

DETAILS

Adopted: Taking Your Place in the Family of God by Ken Wootton. Paperback, 5.5 × 8.5 inch, 146 pages, ISBN 9781764892100. Ebook ISBN 9781764892117. Published by The Positive Difference Group, an imprint of Revival Resources Management Pty Ltd. Release 1 November 2026. Available at adoptedbook.au and through Australian retailers.

MEDIA CONTACT

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