

**Hello we are...  
Courtney and Mitchell**





## *Our Hopes and Dreams...*

We are so excited that you have taken a few moments to get to know us. There are no words to express how grateful we are that you are choosing to give others an opportunity to be parents, even if the family chosen is not us. So many people wish and dream for a child and you, in your selflessness and courage, are making that dream come true. Our prayer is that God blesses you through this time with the strength you need and an extra measure of grace each day. Thank you again for making this decision. As long as we live, we will never forget what you have done and, most importantly, what you have given. You truly are a blessing!!

We are supposed to answer the question; “why should we be chosen?” Well, first we want to make it perfectly clear, from where most people in this country sit, we are not special. We don’t have a big house or big, fancy cars. But I hope, after you read this, you will see we have much more than that. Our life is centered around God, He is our rock and our salvation! Through the struggles we have faced trying to have a baby we have seen his amazing work in our lives. He saved Courtney from death when a pregnancy went very bad. He gave Mitchell the strength to guide us through the emotional struggles of losing a child and the reality that we may never carry a child of our own. God is our everything and we are better for it!

Another important fact about us is that we love children! It seems silly but we know people who don’t seem to love kids yet they have some of their own. Strange, isn’t it! We both have a child’s heart; we easily love others and want nothing more than to have our house filled with people. We understand that children are little people and that means they have thoughts and opinions that should be listened to. We want our children to live in a home that is fun and a home they want to be in. Our home is filled with love and laughter now and our dream is that love and laughter only grows with each child. We know the importance of hard work and “storing up for the winter” so to speak but we also know that any job can be made fun with a positive attitude and a little bit of silliness! It is our intention that everything we do gives glory to God and brings a smile to someone else’s face. We understand that we must sometimes do things we don’t want to do but we also know a good attitude can make the task a little easier.

So you see; we are nothing special, but we try very hard to love the Lord and be something special to him. We assure you all the children God brings to us will be raised with love and kindness. They may wish for the finer things in life (a bigger room or a Lexus on their 16th birthday) but they will never wish for more love and understanding. Thank you again for spending some time with us and may God richly bless you!

Sincerely,

*Courtney and Mitchell*



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## *Our values and beliefs as parents...*



The most important aspect of our home is Jesus Christ! Everything we do is for him. He is our beginning and our end. Our children will grow up in a loving home, focused on the Lord and His will for our life. Our home has a loving and laid-back atmosphere mostly due to the fact that we are both happy people. Why be sad and worry over the little things in life? Trust in the Lord and enjoy the things he has planned for you!



We believe that education is a major part of what makes a person well rounded. A good education will allow a person to see things they otherwise would not see. There is a local Christian school that we would love to send our children to before they go to the public school. This will ensure they have a solid foundation, not only in ABCs and 123s but also in the Bible. Then when they have graduated we will help to send them to college or the tech school of their choice to fulfill God's plan for their lives.



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## Our home...

### A little more about us...

- Both non-smokers
- Family cat

#### HOBBIES:

##### **Adoptive Mother:**

Reading, gardening, crocheting, watching musicals, Interpretive dance at church, baking

##### **Adoptive Father:**

Building things, wagon riding, fishing, floating the river

##### **Family:**

Entertaining church friends at home cookouts, horse back riding, home improvement projects, front porch swinging, watching professional football

#### PROFESSIONS:

**Adoptive Mother:** Teacher

**Adoptive Father:** Delivery Driver

#### EDUCATION LEVEL:

**Adoptive Mother:** Masters Degree

**Adoptive Father:** Some College

We live in a small community where everyone knows you, and we like it that way. You're not afraid to let your children play outside because, around here, neighbors watch out for their neighbors. It's a peaceful place filled with honest, hardworking people. It was a great place to grow up and is a great place to raise children. Both of our parents and siblings live in our town. We grew up here; our parents grew up here and so on! We love the atmosphere of good Christian values and all around good morals.

Life around our home would look something like this: In the summer we plant and harvest a garden, go fishing, horseback or wagon ride, swim in the lake, have cookouts in the back yard and watch the sun go down on the front porch swing. In the winter we play in the snow, horseback ride, play board games or the Wii, sit by the fireplace and read a good book (for the children, Dr. Seuss or Fancy Nancy to name a few) and watch good movies as a family. And no matter what time of year it is, JJ's kitchen (Courtney's Mom) is always open for Saturday morning breakfast with the family. Most people would describe our life as simple, we would call it blessed!

We have wonderful neighbors who have small children who play in our shaded back yard. We are close to a park with swings, slides, a pool, tennis courts, skate park, horse shoe pits and local soft/baseball leagues for children. We are near our church and historic sites with civil war reenactments and lots of history to learn. We have a local college theater that has wonderful children's plays as well as musicals and other performances. To be such a small town, we really do have lots to offer a child and families.

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## Our family...

Our children will have an amazing family, or at least we think so. Our immediate family is not big but they have lots of love to go around. Our families are very similar and have blended together very well over the years. Our parents are 4 of our biggest supporters and our mothers are the best prayer warriors we have. Life is easier with our families.

Our church family is very important to us as well. Our close knit group of friends has been such a big help to us and we are grateful to have them. We enjoy getting together to have good clean fun like game night and pool parties for their children. We can't wait to have children of our own to "throw in the mix". Our friends are part of the village we want to help raise our children. It is our belief that it takes more than two people to bring up a strong, well rounded individual and I can't think of any better people to help us do that than our church family.

Mitchell's family loves to horseback ride and wagon ride on and around our 120 acre family farm. We play hard together but we also work hard together. The entire family shows up for hay season to bring in the crop. Working as a family has helped me to see the importance of being there for those you love and providing for your family. His Papa taught him how to fish and how to farm. A new tradition for Mitchell is to float the river with several friends to a camp site and camp for the weekend.

Courtney's family meets for breakfast at her mother's house on Saturday. We go down for coffee and some mother-daughter bonding time just before it's time to prepare breakfast. We know it seems like a chore but we also garden as a family. Even though it is work, we have a wonderful time together, laughing and playing practical jokes. Just like Mitchell's family, Courtney's family farmed together as well. Some of the things we make have been handed down for three or four generations.

We also love Christmas. We go from house to house setting up Christmas villages in every room, hanging Christmas wreaths outside and setting each table with Christmas dishes! It's wonderful and we can't wait to share our love of Christmas with our children!!! Courtney's dad even gets into the fun by putting on a Santa suit and going from house to house with presents on Christmas Eve.

One of the things our families do really well is except people into the family. For this reason, we feel our family is the perfect family to receive an adoptive child. Once the papers are signed there will be no "adopted" to it. Our child will be a grandchild, niece or nephew, son or daughter. The will never be introduced as our "adopted child" or as the "adopted grandchild". Family is family; being blood relatives is only a technicality!!



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