

Hello we are...
Ian and Emily





Our Hopes and Dreams...

When we first started dating, we dreamt of having a family one day. Five years later, we sat on a couch at a crossroads. We were facing infertility obstacles and were seeking some wise guidance from a dear friend. She asked, “How do you feel when you think of having biological children?” Ian and I had similar responses, the thought made us happy. Then she asked, “How would you feel about having an adopted child?” We simultaneously began to cry with tears of excitement! We looked at each other stunned – of course adoption was the path for us!

Ten years ago, as a young business man Ian hired my brother to work for him. It wasn't long before I learned of my brother's new boss who was filled with more compassion and generosity than most men twice his age. After he graduated college, at 23 he purchased a house and filled it with “hard to place” children that were in the foster care system. Not only did he provide them a place to call home; he provided the love, stability and support every child needs to thrive. He volunteered in their classrooms, he helped them with their home work; he taught them that love has no boundaries.

Loving and caring for children that were born to someone else was what inspired me about Ian. His acts of compassion made me a better person. Of course...adoption was the natural path for us!

For the mother who will entrust us to provide a safe and loving home for her child, we have nothing but beautiful thoughts towards you. We see your strength. We see your courage. We see your beauty. We think of you with the highest regard and respect, you will forever have our gratitude. If your child joins our family, they will know that you are strong, courageous and wanted something more for them that you could give at that time. They will know that God addressed two mother's needs with this one adoption.

At this moment, we do not know how our stories end, if we are forever joined by your child, or if we go our separate ways. But we have faith in Jesus and know he has good things in store for you, me and your child. Thank you for risking your heart and considering us as your child's adoptive parents.

With Love,

Ian & Emily


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Our values and beliefs as parents...

We value our role as parents. We won't be perfect parents and our children won't be perfect kids! Ian and I are flawed individuals that live in a home of love. Our marriage is filled with grace, love and understanding. Parenting is not about controlling a child, but about fostering a little personality that was beautifully designed and created by God. We anticipate challenges, however we know that in spite of these challenges we will provide a loving and stable home to our children.

We have a strong love for our families. We believe the role of family is to provide structure support, and love. In our home, we share meals together, talk about the ups and downs of the day, and laugh and cry together. Family is a place where we get to be 100% ourselves – and we are loved for it!

We value diversity in our lives. Although our family has many cultural backgrounds, including; Vietnamese, African American, Korean and Caucasian, it's not simply cultural diversity that we seek. We value those around us who have different ideas, opinions and ways of doing things. We aren't experts in much but we are easily interested and intrigued by many new things. We believe that loving people is the highest form of currency and blessing! We respect people with different backgrounds and beliefs. It is who they are, not what they do or think that brings value.

We value a solid education. We both attended public schools and have completed our undergraduate and our master's degrees. We intend to send our children to the quality public school in our community, however if our child needs a different environment, we will look at other options. We hope our children will pursue their dreams and talents, thus we will provide for our children's higher education. If that means attending medical school or pursuing photography, we will help pave the way for their dreams to become a reality.

We believe in supporting one another in our dreams. Ian is a man filled with ideas – dreams, passions, and fun! One of his greatest attributes is having a dream and going after it. He not only does this for his dreams, but he sacrifices to make my dreams a reality. Ian will often say, "This is important to me, because it is important to you!" He attends my events, takes me to exotic dream locations and lavishes me with gifts – at the sacrifice of his own. I support Ian through his business endeavors. I always speak with encouragement, appreciation, and love. My gratitude for Ian's hard work is evident; I'm Ian's biggest fan! Our child will experience the support, admiration, and encouragement to fulfill their goals and interests. It is who we are!



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A little more about us...

- Both non-smokers

HOBBIES:

Adoptive Mother:

Baking cupcakes, watching and attending sporting events with Ian, Special Event Planner for kids' ministry at church, camp director, traveling, hiking

Adoptive Father:

Wrestling, working out, collecting sports memorabilia, traveling

PROFESSIONS:

Adoptive Mother: 1st Grade Teacher

Adoptive Father: Business Owner

EDUCATION LEVEL:

Adoptive Mother: Masters Degree

Adoptive Father: Masters Degree

Our home...

When guests come into our home they feel warm, accepted and cared for by us! We enjoy having guests into our home for dinner, game night, or just to chill. In our immediate neighborhood we have a walking path, historical park, neighborhood pool, and a family-friendly atmosphere. In our larger community, we have great libraries, youth sports leagues, quality schools, children's museum and theatre, and fun community parades and traditions.

We have started preparations our child's room. The furniture has been ordered and colors have been selected for a calm and peaceful environment. We plan to combine a vintage look with clean crisp colors. We have a wonderful floor plan for the space and look forward to personalizing the room when we meet our child.

We are most looking forward to getting to know our child's personality, and sharing life with them. Not the life we have now, but the life we create together. We look forward to all the fun firsts that parenting brings – even the mid-night feedings, changing dirty diapers and even cleaning spit-up off our clothes.

We can't wait. I am a school teacher and may finish the year when we bring home our child; however, then will be a "stay-at-home" mother. Ian works from home four days a week and his flexible schedule will allow him to stay actively involved in caring for and nurturing our children. In the meantime, Grandpa and Grandma are on deck to love and care for their grandchild. Grandpa already drafted an itinerary of their daily events - sleep, eat, play and repeat!

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Our family...

Ian was a 26 year old small business owner when he hired my brother, Josh. Ian had a heart of compassion that swept me off my feet. When Ian graduated from college, he purchased a house and started a home for foster care children. Ian's heart for children matched mine and we started dating that month. Three years later we were married; we just celebrated our 7th year anniversary and are more in love today as we begin our journey to parenthood.

As a couple, we bring out the best in one another. Our marriage has strengthened tremendously through the years. We have learned the strengths and weaknesses we each bring to the relationship. Rather than critique one another, we assume the best. I know that Ian may forget to stop and grab milk at the store, but it is in no way a reflection of his love for me. Ian knows that I will be teary at times (like girls do) and I will need his undivided attention to help me through a rough day at work. Over the years, our love has grown from a feeling to an action. We live out what it means to love one another - our marriage is good, even when life is hard.

We enjoy traveling, cooking, baking, visiting family, attending art functions, and cheering on our favorite sports teams. One thing that makes us unique is Ian's wide scope of interests that keeps me hopping! Since we have been together, Ian won a state title coaching wrestling, taken me to cattle auctions, and owned a professional motocross team. We have a blast embarking upon new interests and endeavors in our free time. With children, we will begin new traditions – Easter egg hunts, family vacations, Christmas cookie decorations, weekly family night and much more!

Our extended family is a big part of who we are! We live in close proximity to our parents, aunts, uncles and cousins. We still get together for birthdays, holidays, sporting events, or just for fun! For holidays, those not close by travel from all over the nation to celebrate together - aunts, uncles, cousins, and the new babies! The kids light up the moment Uncle Ian walks in the room. He must be their favorite!

My family has a cottage on a lake where our extended family spends time during the summer – cousins, aunts, uncles, and grandparents. Each year, we walk the lake, fish off the bridge, attempt to dive off the dock, and ride the 4-wheelers through the woods. The cottage brings relaxation with no cell phone service, television or a dishwasher! (I take back the no dishwasher as being relaxing). The family stays up late to play card games into the night while eating popcorn cooked on the stove. That's right - not the microwave kind! The cottage contains a book of memories from the longest fish caught to who saw the bear in the woods! The place marks us each year with memories and fun! We look forward to seeing this family favorite time through the eyes of our child.



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