



Hello We Are...



Jacob & Chelsea

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Our Hopes & Dreams

Life is full of huge blessings and challenges. However, how we strive to find a foundation for our life in simple blessings such as loving people, enjoying God's creation, growing as a person, and being thankful. Our hopes and dreams are not rooted in tangible assets or experiences, but in how we want to approach life, this ensures we can achieve our hopes and dreams despite any unpredictable circumstances. We hope and dream to be ever-seeking joy, thankful, and find contentment no matter the circumstances.

We have always desired children since we were married; however, this has not been easy for us to achieve due to infertility issues. Infertility is a challenge on many fronts, but over the years, we have learned much about what it means to have children. We have come to the conclusion we want children so that we can give back and sacrifice for a child in a way that only a parent can.

The world is big, amazing, and fascinating. Our goal is to prepare and nurture a child in a way that will make them successful in navigating life. We want them to have the freedom to explore and learn what interests them. We want to provide a structure for them so they can handle what life throws their way and help them find ways to answer their questions.

We know that having a child will be a new challenge but will come with many blessings. We look forward to watching them discover and explore the world. A child's perspective is so precious as everything is full of wonder and excitement. We will always provide for their wants and needs in a way that teaches them to be humble and thankful for what they have.

We believe that learning and curiosity are essential for personal growth and development. We value education and are committed to providing our children with the resources and support they need to excel in whatever they become interested in. We also believe that learning should be a lifelong journey and will encourage our child to be curious and explore the world around them. We will provide activities and experiences that stimulate curiosity and critical thinking. We will support and challenge them in whatever they want to do to help them achieve their goals.

For you, selecting potential parents for your child must be an overwhelming prospect. We cannot begin to understand the emotional impact of such a decision. You are strong and courageous for putting your child first. If you select us as parents of your child, you will always be a part of the child's story, and we know your love for them will never falter. We are thankful to you for considering us for the honor of loving and raising your child or children.

Blessings,

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Our Values & Beliefs as Parents

FAITH - Faith recognizes there is something bigger than ourselves. Our Christian faith provides us with a foundation of truth, morals, values, and purpose. Our faith gives us direction to treat others with love, kindness, justice, and respect. Our faith drives us to want to be better people than we were yesterday not for our own benefit but to benefit those around us. We want to share our faith with our children by sharing biblical stories that express the values of our faith. We want to encourage our children to ask the big questions of life and help them work through them, so they have faith that is formed through their own reasoning, not just handed down to them by us. We desire to demonstrate our faith and morals to our children through our actions showing them love, kindness, respect, and self-control.



HONESTY - Honesty means being sincere and not deceiving or misleading others. When someone is honest, they are more likely to build trust and respect, leading to rich relationships with others. We strive to be honest with others when questions are asked, when we reflect on ourselves, and the ways we can change to become better people. All of this we strive to do carefully so that honesty comes with caring words. We will listen to our child when they ask questions and answer them with truth in an age-appropriate manner. We will be open to having our child share their opinions of us as parents and adults and guide them with words that allow for respectful and honest conversations.



SELF-CONTROL - Self-control is the ability to regulate one's thoughts, emotions, and actions to achieve goals and make responsible decisions. We choose to recognize strong emotions or desires and have conversations with each other about the best ways to handle these. We see value in being able to control ourselves as it brings deeper joy in life as we are not controlled by the potential chaos. We will teach self-control to our child by demonstrating that delayed desire can lead to greater outcomes in the future. It is a critical skill for navigating life, as we often must resist a short-term want for a long-term goal. For example, if the child asks for a chocolate bar right before dinner, that would be an opportunity to show them that they can have the treat but they will need to wait for dinner to be done.



HUMILITY - Humility is the quality of being modest and respectful. It involves recognizing one's own limitations and being open to learning and growing from others. Humility helps keep us from thinking higher of ourselves than we should. If we think ourselves to be people who are never wrong, or make a mistake, or are better than others that plays out in treating others poorly, not listening to others, and choosing to see people in a unloving light. We will strive to teach humility to our children in order to help them form stronger relationships, be more open to feedback and constructive criticism, and be more resilient in the face of failure or adversity. This will be given in a loving manner which helps someone want to change, learn and grow.

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Our Home



Home is where we enjoy being. We invest in our home so that we enjoy the space we spend most of our time. There are many nights when we enjoy just being home together, and our home has so many great memories already, even though we have only lived here for a short time. The people and, most of all, our family make our house a home. We have grown a lot as individuals in this house, and some of our favorite memories are the conversations we have had.

We live between a rural and urban environment. We like to think it's the best of both worlds in many ways. Being on the outskirts of a moderately sized city means we have the safety of a rural environment with the amenities of a city. We are in a highly rated school district with a city pool, library, and park, all within walking distance from our home. We have multiple hiking trails that we visit often. There is an excellent Zoo and amusement park only a few miles away. We also have a large park with playground equipment, basketball courts, and a skate park.

We have a backyard with a decent amount of room to run and play. We have a covered deck and a firepit that we often use as the outdoors is something we both very much enjoy. There are many children in the neighborhood who play together in each other's yards. We have a few neighborhood children who like to come over and help Chelsea with the garden she maintains to grow food that we incorporate into our family meals. We often try new recipes or ingredients as she enjoys cooking, and I enjoy eating. We both really enjoy homemade pizza night, one of our more unique favorites is when we have leftover brown sugar chili, and we use it to make our family-invented brown sugar chili pizza.

HOBBIES:

Adoptive Mother: Gardening, reading the history of medicine, theology, philosophy, current events, hiking, cooking, food preservation, spending time with friends and family, counseling others

Adoptive Father: Reading, camping, hiking, blacksmithing, playing guitar, philosophy, DIY, art, design, technology, teaching

PROFESSIONS:

Adoptive Mother: Homemaker

Adoptive Father: Staff User Experience Designer

EDUCATION LEVEL:

Adoptive Mother: Associates Degree

Adoptive Father: Associates Degree

PLUS:

- Both non-smokers

We often enjoy talking with friends and family around the table or in the living room. We will occasionally host a board game night where we have friends and family to play games and fellowship together. We also host and lead a small group from our church in our home weekly during the fall and winter. We really enjoy cooking for family and friends, there is something special about sharing a meal together!

We look forward to adding a child to our lives. Chelsea will be a stay-at-home mother to spend time with our child. We will ensure our home is a safe and stable environment, including our child has a comfortable and secure living space. We will work to modify and establish new routines around the child's needs. We are blessed that Jacob can work from home, and Chelsea will stay home with the child, which affords us the flexibility to discover what works well.

The child's room has light gray walls with white trim and a large window that provides natural light. We will add an age-appropriate bed along with age-appropriate toys, changing area, etc. There is a spacious closet in the room as well. The space will be comfortable with toys and decorations that hopefully will inspire the child. As the child ages and develops their interests, we will support them with various decorations and adornments special to them to make it their own space.



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Our Family

We met while attending college. We connected on Myspace when we saw we were attending the same local college and began messaging back and forth. After many weeks of messaging, we met in person at a coffee shop Chelsea was working at to talk. We have been together ever since and have been married for 12 years.

Jacob is a strong but gentle leader. He values wisdom and education, always giving helpful, practical advice in a caring, respectful, and kind manner. He is very creative and artistic, becoming a very talented artist with his drawings, paintings, and also in his new hobby of black smithing. Chelsea's biggest strength is her moral compass, thus can give helpful input for others to consider. She enjoys speaking to others and getting to know them and their real-life struggles. We have a strong marriage and have faced many trials together, including infertility which has only strengthened our relationship. We have a lot of trust, love, and respect in our marriage based on our faith.

We love spending time together, and it has been a blessing for us both to work from home so we can spend even more time together. Some of our favorite times are when we bring up some crazy topic and talk, debate, and analyze it together. We enjoy learning together. We both recently took a class on western philosophy and are planning a trip to a conference on faith and science later this year. We also enjoy spending time outdoors together, either hiking, camping, or fishing. Jake really enjoys challenging himself with camping and has camped in the dead of Iowa weather with friends.

We both really enjoy taking vacations without set agendas. When we arrive at the location, we explore the area and try to get to know local people so we can see cities and towns like those who live there all year round. This has made for wonderful conversations with people, great restaurants, and visiting hidden landmarks.

Like many families, we probably have many traditions we don't even notice as they are integrated into our lives. Early on in our marriage, we both were so excited to give each other our gifts, we couldn't wait. We remembered we were adults and could do what we wanted so we gave gifts early and continued to do so. Christmas time is different without young children, and we look forward to establishing new traditions with our child. We also want to keep planning family road trips and enjoy nature as a core part of what we do together.

We see our extended family monthly, although since our niece has come into the picture that has increased. We don't often make plans other than sharing meals together as we enjoy talking and catching up. We spend holidays with both sides of the family and enjoy the simple pleasure of sharing a good meal together. Both sides of our family are beyond excited for us to adopt. We have a strong support system with our parents and siblings. Jacob's sister was adopted and has already been helpful by sharing her experiences with us.



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