

JON, KIMBERLEE, & KIDS



Photo captured: August 2019

We Love BECAUSE HE *First Loved Us*

1 JOHN 4:19

Dear Friend,

Thank you for taking the time to get to know our family. Right off the bat you should know that we are open to any gender and race and will love you and your child unconditionally and without judgement. Whether Open or Closed Adoption we see you as family. If you choose an Open Adoption you will never lose contact with us. We just feel beyond blessed that you are considering us as an option for your child.

We haven't met you yet but we already have so much admiration for you. The strength and courage you have is unbelievable. Regardless of the decision you make, we pray that God will bless you and your child beyond measure.

Although we have three biological children, all of the pregnancies were difficult. We truly thought we were going to lose all of them at one point but by the grace of God, they all survived. We want to continue to expand our family through adoption. We want you to know that we will love your child as much as we love our others.

The reason we've chosen to pursue adoption is because we know God has called us to do so. Our lives' trials and tribulations have only confirmed this. We both have had tough lives and because of that, we want to be amazing parents and raise our children up in the way God would want us. We have a strong heart for all of God's creation, especially for children.

We realize the tough decision that you have to make and desire to come along side you and give the love and support you deserve. We want to be another option for you so you can be confident in your decision. You and your child are loved and cared about and are not alone. You will forever be cherished and talked about in the highest regard by our family. We give you our promise to take care of your child in the most loving way, just as we do with our other children. Rest assured that they will fit right in with our other kids. There is nothing they can bring to the table that we can't handle. Also, our children want you to know that they can't wait to love and spoil your little

one.

Love,

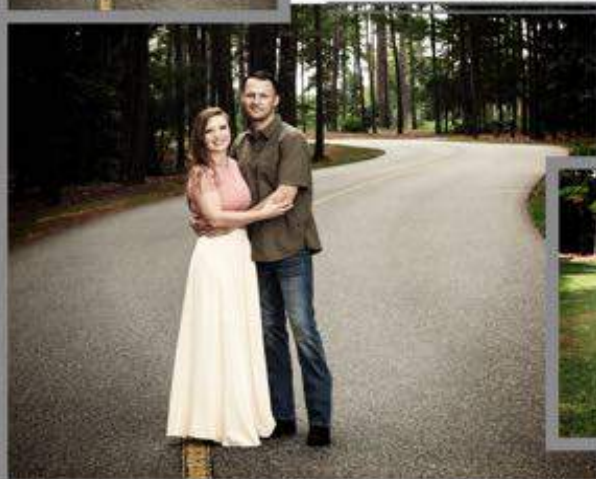
JON, KIMBERLEE, KIRSTEN,
BRYSON, AND RHYLAND



Our Love Story

Our love story is definitely unique. One boring day, Jon was searching classmates online and saw my profile picture. He thought I was beautiful and had to message me. I just moved there and wanted a friend. I was finishing up high school but taking a college course. Although there were multiple campuses, our classes ended up being right next door at the same time! It was over from there. Like magnets, we were inseparable. From that day forward, we spent everyday together. We were young and in love.

Though we didn't plan on finding our forever that day, God had different plans. Like a whirlwind, we quickly turned into three, then four and five. By faith, we know it's to be six and this is where You join in our story.



Engagement



As Kimberlee went to work, Jon took the day off and got everything ready for the proposal he'd been planning for months. He didn't miss a detail. He bought and cooked her favorite 3 course meal. He bought dishes, decorations, a new dress for our daughter that matched his outfit, thousands of rose petals, lots of candles, gifts, and created a proposal playlist of Kimberlee's favorite romantic songs.

The living room was totally transformed, it looked like an elegant restaurant. It had a table for two along with the decorations. There was a red ribbon pathway that represented our journey together. As she followed it there were stops along the path. Each stop had either a note, a picture, or a gift which represented a memorable event in our relationship. From where we first met, our first vacation, and the birth of our daughter. There were candles and rose petals leading the way. At the end of the journey, he was on one knee with our daughter, and had a ring in hand.

When she arrived, she saw what was happening. Shy and embarrassed, she slammed the door. She stood outside shaking, trying to muster up the courage to go back in. She couldn't believe someone would do something so kind for her. Finally she went in and found Jon, down on one knee with our daughter anxiously waiting. He was shaking too. Obviously, she said, "YES!"



Wedding

Our wedding was amazing! We were young and in love, it felt like a fairytale come true, it was a special blessing because we thought we'd never be able to save up for a wedding.

We had a small wedding in Arizona. Our colors were light pink, black, and white. The building was beautiful inside and out, complete with a secret room and a wine cellar. There were beautiful white chairs, tables, pink peonies flowers, and candies on the tables. Kimberlee walked down the aisle to "A Dream is a Wish Your Heart Makes." Then we danced and enjoyed the night away.

Funny story, we decided long before that we were not going to any vows because it felt too nervous. Somewhere along the way Jon wrote his own vows. I had no idea until the day of the wedding! I scrambled to put something together while the girls and I got ready. At the same time, our three year old decided it was the day that she was going to get emotional and throw temper tantrums all day. My sister-in-law sprung into action and wrote down whatever I could think of on the fly. Horribly, I couldn't think between the plans, tantrums, and getting ready around the bridesmaids.

When it came time to say our vows, Jon's were amazing; completely thought out and beautiful (seriously some people were crying, especially Jon). Then, I read mine. It was like crickets in the audience! I felt so embarrassed. If only they knew why mine were terrible and his were not. People still bring it up to this day. "Do you remember when y'all said you're vows?" As they finish a life, I start, "How could I forget?" and laugh. Look at the bottom right corner picture of the wedding photos at Kimberlee's face. Her face says it all!



Life As A Couple

We've been married over 9 years but been together for over 13. This means we've spent a lot of time getting to know each other inside and out and our foundation is firmly grounded. Truly we have become like one with God as our glue. Our love for each other runs deep.



"Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not easily broken."
Ecclesiastes 4:12



THINGS WE ENJOY DOING AS A COUPLE ARE:



- Watch our favorite Netflix shows after we tuck the kids in bed.
- We get a little snack and talk about our day and life in general.
- We plan our future and goals together.
- On the weekends we dance in our living room as a couple and with the kids. We especially like Country Dancing.
- We cook special dinners and experiment with new dishes.
- When the kids are in school we go on lunch dates or simply browse through stores together.
- We read books based on whatever we want to work on as a couple (i.e. raising preteens, etc).
- On special occasions we get a babysitter and have a night out on the town.



MY HUSBAND

Personality and Gifts

My husband is beyond amazing! I love him because he is my knight in shining armor, my best friend, and confidant. He is loving, kind, giving, driven, successful, and I could go on all day. He is the kind of person that gives to everyone but asks for nothing in return.

Jon has Bachelors in Business Management and Entrepreneurship and is the smartest man that I know. Seriously, he's amazing with computers, technology, managing others, and business. In fact, I'm not sure what he's not good at. He surprises me everyday.

I would describe Jon as laid back, quiet, comforting, strong, and protective of his family. He is a go getter and always strives to grow whether that's spiritually, as a husband, father, or person in general. Jon is the kindest man I have ever met. In fact, this was the very first reason I fell in love with him.

What makes him special is not only does his family see him as someone they can trust but so do others. People just gravitate towards him naturally. Wherever he goes, he is highly-regarded, trusted, and respected.



As a Father

Jon wants to experience every part of fatherhood. He makes sure to talk with his kids, read to them, play with them, go to their special events, and their appointments. He prays with and for his kids, he is patient and works with them, and always tries to make them smile.

He is also great with other people's kids. He's the kind of guy that will be walking in a store and stop just to say "how cute" a kid is. When I ran my daycare, all the kids **ADORED** Jon. When he'd get home they would yell, "Jon's home!" and run over to hug him.

What I admire most about him as a father is that he is not above apologizing when he is wrong. If he makes a mistake, he makes it right. He knows being a good father takes work and so he works on himself to be the man that God has called him to be. Most of all, Jon is a gentle man. He's the kind of man that hugs and kisses his kids, cuddles them, and wipes their tears away. He is our rock. When we hug him, all of our fears just fade away.

I can honestly say that he can't wait to be an adoptive father. He talks about it, plans for it, and prays for it to happen. He grew up without parents and so being the best dad is his top priority. Aside from God and his marriage, nothing is more important.

Occupation

Jon is a Cyber Officer in the Army.

People in his field regard him as a leader, they look up to him, and follow his example. This applies to soldiers that he outranks and the soldiers that outrank him. Each day people look to him for answers and for his opinion. It doesn't matter where he is or where he goes, he quickly is picked out of the group and respected.

Jon is in the Army but you'd never tell! He is gentle and he's not stuffy or strict. He goes with the flow and lets kids be kids. We enjoy being a military family. We look to our moves as an adventure. Our kids like knowing that God made them strong- so that their dad can be a hero. The wonderful thing about the Army is that they realize family is the backbone. Without family supporting our soldiers, things would go downhill quickly. Because of this, we are given a lot of support; educationally, spiritually, mentally, physically, and the like. They even have groups for families that adopt in order to help all the people involved. What's especially awesome is that they give adoptive parents 21 days off to bond with their child.



MY WIFE

Personality and Gifts

Summing up Kimberlee in two pages is just not enough time to describe the breadth of how amazing this woman truly is. Since the moment we met, her personality has shined into my heart. She has long been the light of my life that brings me pure joy and happiness every day. She has the gift of joy, as I owe many of my smiles to her. She is hilarious, fun, and young at heart.

I admire how she views the world with an uncanny ability to see only the good in it. I owe most of my personal growth to God and Kimberlee. She has opened my eyes to things I never even imagined. My love of children, family, and my faith are a direct reflection of the positive impact she has made upon me. She deeply connects with those around her with her knowledge and care of others to make you feel special, as if an angel is near.

I swear that if she were to go on a television show she would be instantly famous. She has the vocal cords of a star, can dance better than the pros, and is a fun trip to be around. But with all seriousness, she is too special for words.

What makes her a great wife is that I know that whatever happens, she is there for us. She will research a way to come out any situation improved. She makes people better simply with her positive influence and unwavering love. I love her because she knows the real me, the reasons why our children and I tick, and encourages us all to be more than we ever thought we could be.



sparkle

As A Mother

Kimberlee understands and connects with children effortlessly. She has been working with and around children since she was a child herself. If any child is in need of help, someone to talk to, or just curious about life Kimberlee is the go-to person. She has a close unique relationship with all of our children and there is no doubt in my mind that she will instantly connect on a very deep level with a child that we adopt. She will be able to talk to and teach them so many positive life lessons with unending love.

Kimberlee ran her own child care center from our home and was unbelievably great with all of the children. No matter what a child needed, one-on-one time, developmental help, learning struggles, or just positive discipline she knew just the right way to impact each child. She truly cares for everyone and everything on God's earth and knows how to change children's lives for the better.

As children grow up, discipline evolves. Kimberlee is the leading change agent when it comes to finding effective and positive ways to ensure our children are maturing and learning good ways to approach life's challenges. From clip up and down charts, cards being taken, or minutes off of bedtime she always knows what will work best for them.

When kids want to play they go directly to my wife! She brings the fun and is not ashamed to be the clown to ensure kids have a fun time.

Kimberlee has wanted to adopt from a young age. God laid it on her heart long ago and she is eager to share her love and life with an adoptive child. I already know that she is an amazing mother and I cannot wait to see her with another child.

Adoption Ready

Though Kimberlee has her Bachelors in Psychology (minoring in Sociology) and Master's in Elementary Education. She has put her teaching career aside to be the Queen of our home. Our family does not function without her. She does everything in our home and takes the brunt of daily parental duties. I credit much of the success of our children's education as well as my ability to be an effective soldier to my wife.

She is waiting and ready for when adoption calls. Since she is a stay-at-home mom, the baby will be her priority. No need to worry about outside childcare, the little one will be her pride and joy.



Favorites

- a. Color
- b. Dessert
- c. Movie, TV Show
- d. Book
- e. Season

His

- a. Black, White, Red, Grey
- b. Not really into desserts, but Cannoli, Brownies, or Sherbet
- c. Dumb & Dumber, Ratatouille, Aladdin, and Walking Dead
- d. I don't like to read, but when I do it's The Bible
- e. Spring and Fall, but depends where you live
- f. Cooking, Eating, Technology, Gadgets, Playing Pool, and Sports
- g. Christmas and Halloween
- h. Vegas, Beach, Six Flags and other Theme Parks
- i. Basketball, Football, Pool, and Hockey
- j. Pepperoni and Extra Cheese, Ham and Pineapple, and Margherita



- f. Hobby
- g. Holiday
- h. Vacation
- Spot
- i. Sport
- j. Pizza

Her

- a. Dusty Pink then Purple
- b. Chocolate? Cake, Brownies, Cupcakes, Fudge, and Cream Puffs
- c. Grease, Aladdin (New Version), and Magical Diaries
- d. The Bible, Joyce Meyers, Mary Higgins Clark, and Psychology books
- e. Spring, Fall, and Winter but depends where you're living
- f. Dancing, Singing, Boogie Boarding, I sing all day.
- g. Christmas
- h. California and Theme Parks
- i. Dance, Cheerleading, and Soccer
- j. Pepperoni and Black Olives, Pineapple Ham, and Margherita

Bryson is our middle child. He is 7 years old and will start 2nd grade. When thinking of a description word to describe him, we'd have to just say, "cool." He is so laid back, go with the flow, SUPER high energy, happy go lucky, compassionate, a gentleman, kind, caring, snuggle bug, loving, and tender hearted. I swear, nothing ever gets this kid down. He's just happy all the time. Most of all, he's a clown. He's always trying to get people to laugh.

Everywhere we go, someone is just laughing over something he does. When they laugh, it's like sugar for his soul. He loves making people smile.

One of his favorite lines is, "Did that break your heart?" He never wants to see that anyone is hurting or upset so he'll ask that from time to time if you look sad.



ENJOY EVERY MOMENT

Bryson



Bryson is all boy! He loves cars, trucks, dinosaurs, planes, animals, and toy guns. Also Bryson just loves learning. He looks forward to reading and being read to like our other kids do. If he doesn't do his best work, he's not happy. His reading is above average for his age because all he wants to do is read.

He's also great at spelling and writing.

Bryson wants you to know that he can't wait to have a sibling through adoption. He doesn't care whether it's a boy or a girl. But I guarantee he will make them play with his cars and dinosaurs.

Kirsten (pronounced like Kirsten Dunst) is our oldest child. She is 12 years old and is in jr. high. Kirsten is our second little mommy around here. She is constantly helping out the kids, checking on them, playing with them, and even cooks at times. She LOVES being able to experiment in the kitchen and put her skills to use. Her daddy used to be a chef so this doesn't surprise us. We would describe her as brave, strong, creative, unique, independent, intelligent, loving, caring, insightful, curious, and even a little sassy kind of girl. Although Kirsten is young, she has a strong desire to serve God and centers her life around Christ.

Kirsten loves unicorns, the colors pink and turquoise, glittery things, music, dance, and usual teen stuff. Kirsten wants to do it all and experience it all. She is constantly changing her mind on what sports she wants to do. Although we would love her to focus on just one thing, we respect the fact that she just has a love for life and try not to stifle that. Currently, she's in hip hop, goes to Bible Studies, and virtual Bible Study hangouts.

Kirsten wants you to know that she can't wait to be a big sister yet again! She often talks about how much fun it's going to be, pushing two-strollers around during our daily walks. She also prays for her future brother or sister as well as for the expectant family as well.

Kirsten



Rhyland is our youngest daughter. She is 1 1/2 years old in most of these pictures but now that you're reading this, she's probably closer to 2. Rhyland is a fire cracker! She is full of life and loves making people laugh. She is absolutely hilarious, all we ever do is laugh at what she does. This girl skipped the baby stage and acts more like she's 3.

Her favorite thing right now is to splash and make a mess of things. Get her around some water or food and she'll make a mess in about 2.5 seconds. Some of her other favorites are: FOOD, babies, looking at animals, books, rocking, swinging, cuddle time, and playing with toys and objects. Rhyland LOVES her siblings and her big puppy. As soon as Stormi walks into the room, her face lights up, she starts giggling excitedly, and dashes towards her.

She's walking and running and is determined to do everything her siblings can do. Although Rhyland is young she makes her presence known. Truly, we don't know how we've done life without this fiery but sweet, little girl.



Our Family's Traditions

In Our Home

Activities: Gym, Exploring, Trying New Foods, Camping, Cooking Together, Dancing, Snow Sledding, Crafts, Games, Cards, Movies, Walks, and Parks... we love everything!

Special Trips: We've travel a lot and love going on road trips! We love theme parks, the beach/lake/river. We try to take a 2 week vacation annually to recoup and spend time together.

Weekdays: During the evenings M-Th the kids do their homework and have 1 or 2 chores. Then we go over their work. Kimberlee also works with the baby on developmental skills etc. Then the kids have a snack and go to their extracurricular activities. After we have dinner and do Bible study as a family.

Fridays we do "Fun Friday." We play cards, games, or watch a movie together.

Weekends: Saturdays we spend the day together and go out in the community. Unless if we have a play date or something. Shopping, the river/lake, children museums, out to eat, and the movie theater are some of our favorites. Sundays we go to church and then relax together. We also do some kind of special meal together.

We keep things fairly structured but adjust our plans accordingly. We keep structure to give the kids a sense of security and know what to expect day-to-day. This helps when daddy goes away for the Army and gives them fun things to look forward to. Also when dad is gone the kids each pick out a special candy/treat on Fun Fridays. So they love that! When dad is gone for a while we like to decorate and send him holiday boxes filled with treats, crafts, and gifts. He also sends the kids gifts too.



On birthdays we make the kids feel special. They decide what to do for their special day. We bring treats for their class and they either have a party or we do something extra special for them.

On smaller holidays we will dress up, do crafts, and/or a meal. We love crafts! Like on Valentine's Day we exchange cards and candies, make treats for school, and mommy and daddy do something sweet for each other/go on a date. We like to teach them to do sweet things as husband and wife.

We believe each of our kids need to have time alone with each parent. So randomly we each take the kids out alone and teach them how they should act on a date. The kids love doing this with us and get to pick what our dates will be like.

On Christmas, Easter, Holy Week, Halloween, and Thanksgiving we do it up big and try to get together with friends and/or family. On Holy Week we make crafts representing what Christ did for us each day.

Easter we decorate eggs and have a special meal, church, search for eggs, and open Easter baskets. We teach them what Easter is truly about. Halloween we dress up, go to a church event, and trick or treat. We also go to the Pumpkin Patch and kid friendly haunted houses. Thanksgiving we make snacks, a big meal, and desserts. Then we play games and talk about what we are thankful for. 4th of July we grill and watch fireworks.

For Christmas we go all out. The kids each pick a child overseas in need and send a gift to them to spread the news about God. Or the kids send a gift to children whose parents are in jail. We also get gifts for the children, ourselves, friends, and family. We attend as many special events as possible, make crafts, decorate the house together, and do Elf on the Shelf. Christmas Day we dress up, make a big "Unner" (lunch and dinner combined) together. Then we open our gifts and spend the day watching family movies and enjoying each other over dessert!





Kimberlee & Jon's Bedroom



Nursery



Nursery Part 2



Play and Learn Area



Bryson's Room



Kintin's Room



Office



Kitchen and Dining Room

HOME

We live in a 4 bed, 2.5 bath home in Georgia. We have a large backyard with bikes, a trampoline, coloring easel, play trucks, toys, and more. We live close to a military post with pools, gyms, sports classes, libraries, horseback riding and more.

To make memories in our home we swim, take walks, bike ride, go to lakes, BBQ, go to the gym, play games, do crafts, teach the kids to cook, parks, museums, and movies. We do family bible study during dinner, enjoy Fun Fridays, and weekends together. Love is shared under our roof by providing our kids a fun and safe place to learn about God and life while teaching them discipline through positive and negative reinforcements. They earn special things by making good choices and lose things when making bad choices.

Our community is close to many large and diverse cities with fun and educational venues. We live near parks and a creek with walking trails.

There is a larger focus on African American and multicultural backgrounds, family festivals/events, concerts, rafting, camping, trails, zip lines and events held on post. Our school district is diverse and offers specialties to meet the different needs of children. We live in the best school district in our area focusing on technology and more.

As a military family, we move a lot but love the adventure and so do the kids! We love moving into new homes, visiting many states, taking lots of trips, and exploring the world. After we adopt we plan on building a 5 bedroom home and settling there for a while. After military life, we plan on settling in the West, Lord willing.



Living Room



Master Bathroom



Kid's Bathroom



Baby Play Area



Fenced in Backyard



Uncle Harley and Linda



Mamama and Papapa



Aunt Reta and Aunt Mild



Auntie Kristal and Uncle Ryan



Stormi



Auntie Alex and Isaiah



Ava and Aspyr



Brysan, Uncle Brandon, Braylan, and Auntie Kristen



Nana



Grandpa Duke



Opa Roger



Uncle Ricky and Aunt Suzan



Auntie Rachel, Uncle Matt, and Bella



Paul



Auntie Jenny and Uncle Phil



Bruce and Tawnya



Chris



Megan and Lucas



Uncle Jeremiah



Angelene and J



Jonathon and Michele

Grandpa Nick



Auntie Krista, Uncle Joshie, and Ryker

Extended Family

Through the years we acquired family aside from blood. When we were young some family members weren't a part of our lives for this reason or that, so we built our own family. The ones shown have proven to show up when it matters.

Kimberlee's Immediate Family: Momama (mom) and Papapa (step dad) are the BEST grandparents. The kids love spending time with them. When we hang out with Uncle Joshua (brother), Auntie Krista (S.I.), and Ryker (nephew, 3) we always have a blast! Our kids look at Ryker like their little brother. Uncle Jeremiah is guaranteed to bring the fun and excitement! He's great with kids.

Jon's Immediate Family: Kristal (sister) and Ryan (B.I.), Brandon (brother), Kristen (S.I.), Brysan and Braylon (nephews). We spent years not knowing each other but it's like we've known them forever now that we found them. They are and will be amazing Aunts, Uncles, and cousins to your little one. Uncle Harley (brother) and Sophia (15 months, niece) are the sweetest! We adore them. Nana (grandma a.k.a "Mom") is wonderful! Kids will be rocked, cooked for, and spoiled at her house. Everyone left is extended family, married in, and/or are amazing friends that became family. We love them all!

Both sides of our families have legally adopted children. There are 15 that have been adopted or adopted out. The children who were adopted vary in age, sex, race, and backgrounds. For their privacy, we won't point out who and some are not pictured as that is their story to tell. There have also been well over 50 children that our families have fostered. Tawnya and Bruce have fostered and adopted the brunt of these kids. They are amazing and have and will be one of our biggest supports!

We see our family as often as possible but don't see them as much as we'd like. When we live close, we see them often but if not, annually or less.

Everyone we've told about our adoption have given us nothing but support and can't wait to be a part of our next child's lives! With certainty, our family and friends will be very supportive no matter who we adopt. We surround ourselves only with the best of friends and family and know that they will love, support, and help us care for all of our children.

Pets

We have three loving and adorable family pets. They are all very good with children and each other:

Ava Bird, Girl, Sun Conure
Aspen Bird, Boy, Parrotlet
Stormi, Girl, Yorkie

Our Future

Within the next few years we pray Jon can go Reserves so we can be stationed in one place and retire out West, build our own home, and watch our children grow up.

We will raise our children in Christ by being an ever-consistent example of how Christ would like us to be, teach about Christ everyday, affirm them in Christ, and pray with and for our children. We will continue to attend church and have the church be apart of our children's upbringing.

The values we want to teach them are to be honest, humble, trust worthy, stable, encouraged, disciplined, sincere, loving, mature, consistent, kind, compassionate, have self control, perseverance, mercy, and to be reliable.

We plan on sending our children to public school as we feel it is best. However, depending on their particular needs we would consider any and all options if necessary.

We would love to send our kids to college if possible and are saving for it. Currently all 4 children have 1 year of college taken care of via the military. If they choose not to attend college, we will push them to do something like trade schools, certifications, etc. Education for us is very important however, having both attended college we realize the importance of pushing our children but not 'making' them do it. We watched students who attended college that weren't ready fail or were unmotivated. We want to support our kids to find God's path for them, whatever that is to be.



Thank You

We want to again say thank you for considering us as an option for your little blessing. It's our prayer that you find God's will for you and your child. We only want you to choose us because you know in your heart it's meant to be. We pray whomever reads this book that God blesses you and your child a million times over. You deserve that.

We believe in you no matter what your choice is and love and care about you and your child. We encourage you to follow God's will, and respect you more than you know.

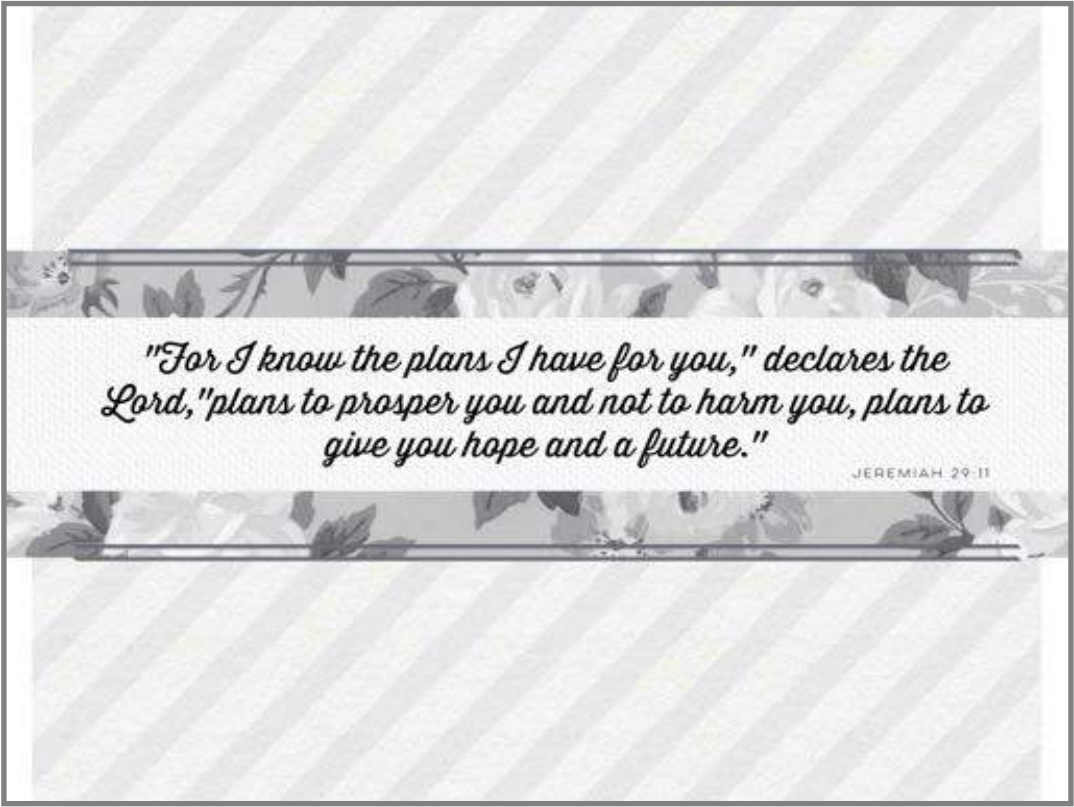
If you choose us, we promise to hold you in the highest regard. You'll be talked about, loved by our family, and prayed for always. We will raise your child up in the way we'd like ours' to be.

We will work with you to be as open or closed as you would like and will establish healthy boundaries for all involved. We don't utilize social media however, if you wish, we can keep you updated by pictures, letters, and meeting in person if possible.



Photo captured August 2019

"Do not be afraid, for I am with you. I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west... Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth." ISAIAH 43:5-6



"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

JEREMIAH 29:11