



RYAN
and **KATE**



"YOU'VE MADE THIS DAY A SPECIAL DAY, BY JUST YOUR BEING YOU. THERE'S NO PERSON IN THE WHOLE WORLD LIKE YOU. AND I LIKE YOU JUST THE WAY YOU ARE." - MR ROGERS

HELLO

it's so nice to meet you!

Thank you for taking the time to look through our book. Adoption has been something we've prayed for since the beginning of our marriage and has always been in our hearts. We hope that this gives you a glimpse into our family and who we are.

We also have been praying for you long before we knew you and want you to feel safe and at peace with the decision you make for your baby. As we've been praying about growing our family through adoption, John 14:27 has been our prayer, "I am leaving you with a gift - peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So, don't be troubled or afraid." We pray this for you and your baby, hoping that you would experience the love of God, His peace in this process, and know how incredible you are for making this choice.

ALL OUR LOVE,

RYAN+AND KATE

OUR *Story*

We met at church where both of us were working in youth ministry. **Our love for God, the beach, Disneyland and constant laughter made us fast friends.** We started dating a few months later, dated for two years and then got married in May 2010. Our relationship has always been easy; and, we believe it's because our foundation was built upon a friendship and our deep commitment to Christ. We still laugh at each other's jokes and are each other's favorite person to hang out with. We have built a life together that we love, and look forward to each day to see what else God has in store for our family.



TEN FUN FACTS

- 1 • Kate is five years older than Ryan and thought he was in high school when they met, which he was not!
- 2 • Kate loves to try new things but Ryan would rather stick with what he knows he likes.
- 3 • Ryan's favorite TV show is "Boy Meets World" and Kate's is "Friends." Their favorite shows to watch together are "Brooklyn 99" and "Parks and Rec."
- 4 • Kate and Ryan love to watch movies together, especially Marvel movies, Star Wars movies, and any other action-packed series.
- 5 • Kate and Ryan's all-time favorite holiday is Christmas!
- 6 • Ryan has read all of the Harry Potter books at least four times.
- 7 • Kate's favorite books are the Anne of Green Gables series.
- 8 • Kate spent six months in Seattle, four months in New Zealand, and four months in San Francisco as part of her college experience.
- 9 • Ryan has never traveled outside of North America.
- 10 • Ryan can solve a Rubik's Cube.



MEET KATE

as told by Ryan

Kate grew up in the Los Angeles area, where you could catch her and her two older brothers at the beach, ice rink, or Disneyland. As a teenager and young adult she spent her summers working at a family camp on Catalina Island, which is where she became passionate about helping families. She studied Psychology at Westmont College and graduated with a Master's in Marriage and Family Therapy from Western Seminary. She was a counselor for seven years, working specifically with young adult women. When Kate became pregnant with our first child we decided she would stay home with the baby. It was then that she started working as a wedding coordinator, and continues to do so now.

Kate loves being a stay-at-home mom, baking, cooking, and building things (like their dining room table). She brings life and beauty to the household, while also constantly taking care of others in the family and at church. Kate is an excellent mother, teaching our children about God, right and wrong, and life. She loves the kids and me unconditionally. Because she is such an amazing mother already, I know she will be as wonderful with our future child as well!

MEET RYAN

as told by Kate

Ryan grew up in Sacramento, CA and is the middle of five kids. He played soccer and studied Business while at William Jessup University. He currently works as the Middle School and Young Adults pastor at our church. He also speaks to the main congregation on a regular basis. In addition to his full-time job at the church, Ryan coaches High School soccer. He is very passionate about his Northern California sports teams and has a sports game on regularly.

Ryan is an incredible father who loves our children unconditionally, bringing so much laughter and the love of Christ into our home. He is a man after God's heart and his top priority is family. He often prays with our children and desires to be a Godly example for them. He is a peacemaker, has great wisdom, and strives to build deep relationships with others. I feel very fortunate to have Ryan as a partner and father of our children - and he says the feeling is mutual!

MEET *our kids*



Abigail is our seven-year-old daughter. She is a shy, rule follower who wants to be included in everything and has the best laugh! She loves to read, play soccer, swim, color, and help Kate bake. Abbi has a great imagination and will make up a game wherever she goes. She loves playing with her brothers and friends, and knows what she likes and doesn't like (i.e. she likes shorts and pants and refuses to wear dresses). When she is home she loves to play outside with her brothers!



Landon is our five-year-old son. He is talkative, moody, cautious, funny, and wants to do everything his older sister does. He loves Star Wars, playing games, and creating imaginary stories with his toys. Landon likes to make sure things are done correctly, and that things are fair. He is thoughtful, kind, and really loves to play with his siblings.



Bennett is our two-year-old son. He is joyful, laughs easily, obsessed with shoes, and doing everything the big kids are doing including his siblings' friends. Bennett loves to dance and listen to music! Mickey Mouse is his favorite. He gets excited whenever he sees something with Mickey on it. He's friendly and not scared of anything. One of his favorite things to do right now is wave to everyone.



We've talked with the kids extensively about our plans to adopt, and they're all very excited. They cannot wait to have a new sibling!



THINGS *we love*

KATE LOVES:

The beach, baking, Disneyland, iced coffee, traveling, swimming, dancing, reading, watching movies, and clothes shopping.

RYAN LOVES:

The beach, Disneyland, iced chai tea from Starbucks, sports, reading, listening to podcasts, movies, playing games, attending sporting events, and Hawaii.

TOGETHER WE LOVE:

We simply love being together, whether it's watching a show, walking to Starbucks, playing a game, or just driving somewhere. We love going to Disneyland, especially with our kids, and our favorite place is the beach. We love to sit in a hot tub and have long deep conversations about God, our family, and relationships.





HOME *sweet home*

Our home is located in a safe and diverse community. We are within walking distance to Abigail's elementary school, Walmart, Costco, and Starbucks. There are many fun parks that we go to every week. We regularly play in our front yard; often other neighborhood kids are out playing as well. Our home is cozy, clean, kid-friendly, and has three bedrooms. Abigail and Landon share a room with a bunk bed and love it. It helps that they like all the same things. When Bennett is a little older, the boys will share a room and Abigail will share with the baby. We believe that great sibling relationships can be built by sharing a room, and pray that all our children will continue to be best friends as they grow up.



OUR family

Ryan is one of five children and has a close relationship with all of them. His brother lives in Los Angeles with his wife, but his three sisters all live nearby. We do family dinners every Monday night at his parents' house with everyone who lives in the area. It's a great time for the cousins to play while the siblings and spouses share life. During different sports seasons for the kids, you can find Ryan's family attending, cheering them on. They are a close-knit family and love to be together.

Kate has two families, her biological family and the one she was adopted into as an adult.

Her biological family consists of two older brothers and parents who divorced when Kate was eleven years old. Both parents live in Southern California, and we visit them when we are down there. One of Kate's brothers and his wife live in Virginia, where he serves in the Navy. Her other brother and his family live in the area. He has one biological son, an adopted daughter from Taiwan, and another son adopted from foster care. Although we are spread out, we make a point to stay in contact with one another.

Kate's adopted family consists of two parents, two brothers (one married with a son, and one single), and a sister (married with a son). Kate met them while working at church, and lived with them for two years before getting married. Kate was 26 years old when she moved in with them and now we are family as they introduce her as their daughter to everyone; the kids call them "Nana" and "Papa". We participate in family dinners at their house every Thursday night and join all of their family vacations. Often we go to their house other days of the week to swim in the pool or hot tub, play in the bounce house, or relax.





OUR friends

We love our friends, and wouldn't be who we are today without them. Ryan's two best friends are from junior high. He was recently a groomsman in one of their weddings. Kate has weekly park dates with friends for the kids to play and the moms to laugh, pray, and support one another. Ryan leads a young adult group at our church, and they often do game nights and other fun activities together. Our friends are the type of people who are there when life is difficult to pray and cry with us. They are also the type of people who will make you laugh so hard your stomach hurts. We thank God for gifting us with amazing friends.





*FIX YOUR EYES ON THIS ONE TRUTH;
GOD IS MADLY IN LOVE WITH YOU.
TAKE COURAGE, HOLD ON, BE STRONG.
REMEMBER WHERE OUR HELP COMES FROM.
- GOOD GRACE BY HILLSONG UNITED*

Our **PROMISES**

If you choose to make an adoption plan for your child, we promise to respect you and your wishes regarding the relationship you want to have with your child. You will always be an important part of your child's life, if you choose. Whether you desire visits, pictures, emails or letters, your child will always know how much you love him or her. You will only be spoken of with love and respect.

WE PROMISE AS A FAMILY:

To love your baby unconditionally, with our whole hearts.

To treat your baby just as we already treat our children.

To point your baby to the love of Christ, teaching them about who God is and how loved they are by Him.

To surround your baby with family and friends who will support us and the baby.

To keep you updated as much as you want.

To pray for you and your baby.

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us and our family. Whether you choose our family or not, we are praying for you on your journey.

LOVE,

RYAN, KATE, ABIGAIL, LANDON & BENNETT

