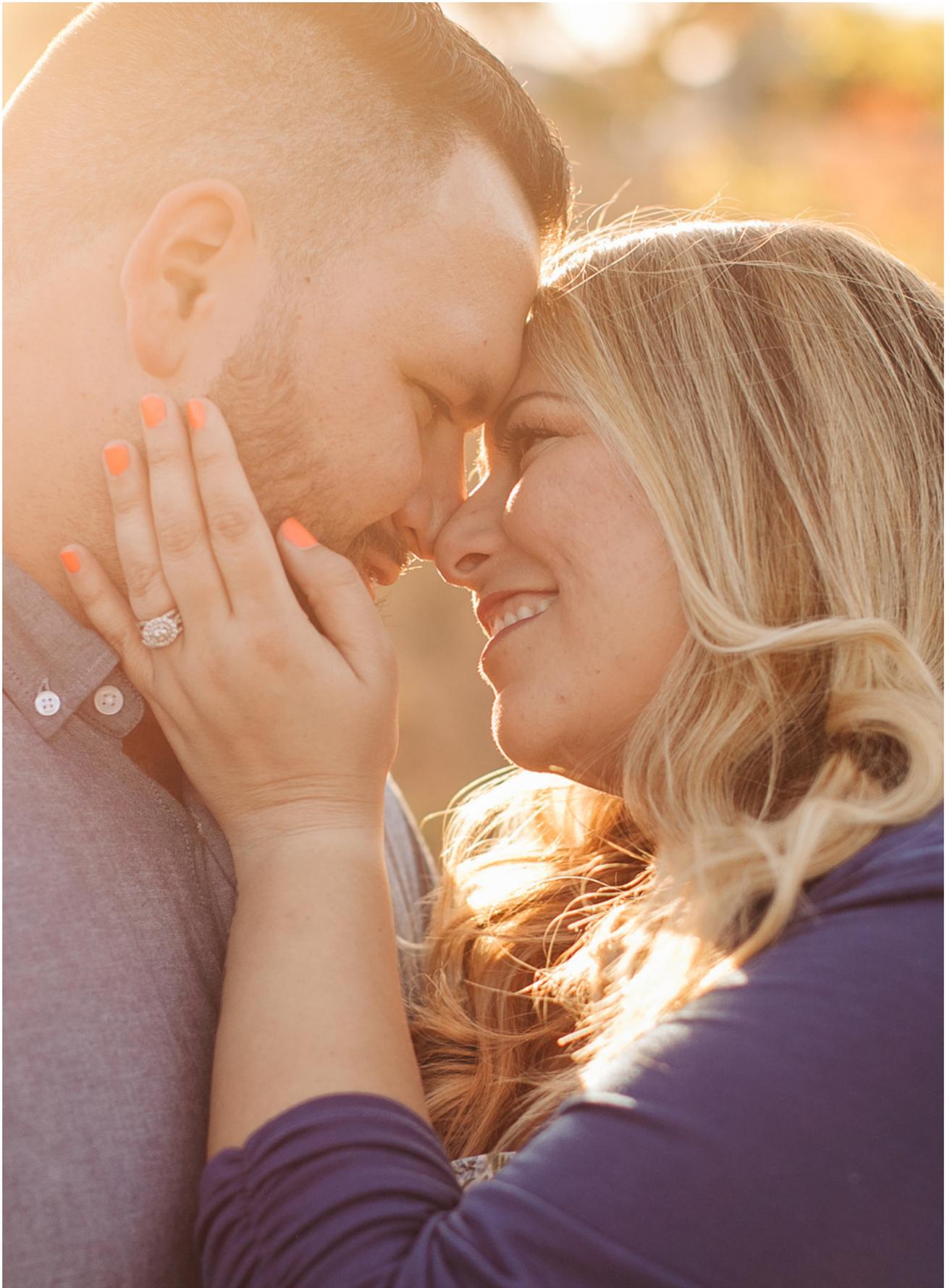




FABIO & MELANIE



hello

WE ARE SO EXCITED TO MEET YOU!

We are so thankful that you have taken the time to look over our book and get to know us a little better. While we know this is just a small look into our life, we want you to know that we are so excited to grow our family.

We cannot even imagine the emotions you are feeling, but we do want you to know that you are in our prayers and we would love nothing more than to be by your side on this journey.

Your selfless love is truly remarkable and should you choose our family, we would be forever grateful and honored. You will be known in our household and forever be a valued part of our family

NEED MORE ABOUT EXPECTANT MAMA HERE - SEE GETTING STARTED GUIDE - Stay Expectant mama focused.

We hope that our book gives you a look into who we are, the family we come from, and the notion of just how much love we have to offer.

FABIO AND MELANIE

THIS IS OUR STORY



when we first met ———

Our love story began in February of 2015. **We met on a dating app and found that we had a few friends in common!** We went on our first date at Barnes and Noble and then wanted to spend more time together, so we went for ice cream. We have been together ever since!

We dated for two and a half years before we got engaged. Fabio took me on a Caribbean cruise with my family, where he completely surprised me at a family photoshoot and got down on one knee. It was such a surreal and special moment, I was shocked and so happy!

We got married in 2018 in South Florida near the beach with all of our family. **We have now been married for nearly four years and together for seven!**



ADOPTION IS WHERE WE FEEL CALLED

Shortly after getting married we knew we were ready to begin trying to start our family. After a year of trying, we had some fertility testing done and found some complications. We thought we would begin the IVF process a year later, but after all of the diagnostic testing, and much praying, we felt called to follow our hearts and explore adoption instead! As we started this process, **God began to open doors and without even telling others our plans, He led us to several people in our life sharing their amazing adoption stories with us.**

We truly feel called to grow our family through the blessing of adoption. We are so thankful to be on this journey and can not wait to see what God has instore for us.





MEET MELANIE

CAREER:

Education Administrator
Dean of Students

EDUCATION:

Masters Educational Leadership
Bachelors Elementary Education

FAVORITES:

Movie: Dirty Dancing
Book: Harry Potter
Sport: Cheerleading & Volleyball

HOBBIES:

Spending time at the pool or beach, reading and traveling.

Melanie teaches, tutors and coaches several youth sports.

Melanie earned a Masters's Degree in Educational Leadership, her Bachelor's was earned in Elementary Education. Melanie is currently part of her school's administration team and she is projected to be the campus' Dean of Students next school year and work with behavior and discipline within her school.

Melanie has an ability to encourage and support others and it shines greatly on a daily basis. When she sees others in need she never hesitates to put aside her own needs to show those in need love and support. Because of this passion, Melanie loves to work with children. She teaches, tutors, and coaches several youth sports. Melanie is truly a "people person" and loves being around her closest friends and family.



MY WIFE MELANIE

Melanie is a very intelligent, hardworking, and devoted person. **She always puts others before herself and is beyond selfless.**

This makes her extraordinary in her job as an educator as she has a passion for learning and loves to help others find a way to learn and grow. To have her as my wife, I am blessed beyond measure. The way she treats her family, students, and friends demonstrates that she will be the best mother in the world. **There is truly no one else like her!**

**THE WAY SHE TREATS HER FAMILY, STUDENTS,
AND FRIENDS DEMONSTRATES THAT SHE WILL
BE THE BEST MOTHER IN THE WORLD.**

FABIO



MEET FABIO

CAREER:

Maintenance Specialist
for the City

FAVORITES:

Movie: Step Brothers
Sport: Football
Holiday: Thanksgiving

HOBBIES:

If it is a sport, Fabio loves it!
If he isn't at or watching a
sports game, he enjoys
spending time gardening ,
working on the yard, and
cooking.



*Fabio is extremely
social and loves to
converse with others.*

Fabio earned a High School diploma in Weston, Florida, and began his AA in Liberal Arts. After a year of classes, Fabio realized that college was not for him and pursued a career with our local city. He is currently a Maintenance Specialist with the city and part of the irrigation team.



Fabio radiates positivity and enthusiasm. He is a social butterfly and loves to converse with others. He can truly make a friend anywhere he goes. His positive disposition helps to always bring sunshine to even the hardest of situation.

MY HUSBAND FABIO

Fabio is one of the most exciting people I have ever met. **He has a magnetic personality and people are naturally drawn to him.** He is very handy which makes him great at his job as a maintenance specialist. Fabio loves to cook, enjoy the outdoors, and attend sporting events. He is an amazing husband and I have no doubts in my mind that he is going to make an equally incredible father and teach our future child so many things.

I HAVE NO DOUBTS IN MY MIND THAT HE IS GOING TO MAKE AN EQUALLY INCREDIBLE FATHER AND TEACH OUR FUTURE CHILD SO MANY THINGS.

MELANIE





THIS PLACE WE CALL *home.*

We are from a sunny Florida town, with families of all backgrounds, races, and ethnicities. Our home is a four-bedroom, two-bath home that sits on a cul-de-sac with neighbors that we adore! There are several young children that live on our cul-de-sac and are always outside playing or riding bikes. Our home is a three minutes walking distance from a large park with basketball and volleyball courts, swings, playing fields, and soon to be splash pad! We live about 20 minutes west of the beautiful Florida beaches, making our neighborhood a wonderful place to raise a family. We love our large backyard and having the ability to host family gatherings for all kinds of occasions. We are also close to a canal and have a canoe we love to take out on occasion.



We have one dog, Jameson. He is a two-year-old Shiba Inu. With the increasing number of babies and young kids in our family and neighborhood, Jameson has had time to adjust to children.

He has done an amazing job with learning how to behave appropriately with babies and we have no doubts that he will be a great “puppy brother.”



We have begun to ‘child-proof’ the home and look into fencing our pool for sure, but can't wait for all the memories to be made in our backyard! We have slowly begun to do things inside our home as well.

Our plan when the baby arrives is for Melanie to take six weeks of maternity leave, provided by the school and Fabio will take the four weeks provided to him for paternity leave! Upon returning to work, Melanie’s mom will be providing care for the child. She is looking forward to being a “Stay at home Gigi” and helping us provide needed care. Once old enough, we will look into daycare and such to begin socialization and school preparations.

*"And now these three remain faith, hope, and love.
But the greatest of these is love."*

1 Corinthians 13:13



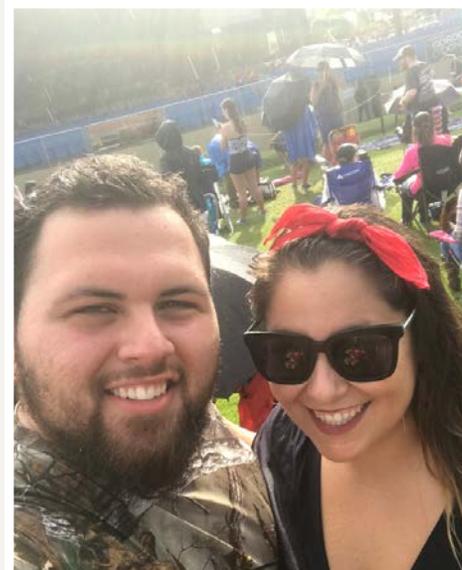
HOW WE SPEND OUR DAYS

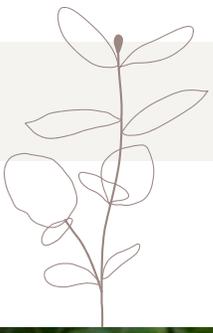
We loved to travel and see new places. We also love to learn about our countries history and site see 'close' to home! We have traveled through Europe and have also taken several cruises around the Caribbean islands.

We are very involved in our community as well. We spend a lot of time volunteering at Melanie's school with events and also within our city. We love to be a present and active part of our communities!

On the weekends we enjoy attending local Farmer's Markets and events. We also like to spend time out doors and be by the pool. Our family enjoys gathering together and BBQ'ing and spending time together. As a couple, we love to go on walks with our pup, Jameson, in the park. We also like to spend time with Jameson at the dog park with his puppy friends!

Most recently, we traveled the west coast of Florida, visiting springs and nature reserves. We enjoyed our time together and learned more about our state.





FAMILY IS EVERYTHING

— *meet our people*



We are truly blessed to be a part of incredible families and together have made one amazing blend of our cultures and lives. We have made some truly spectacular memories over the years. **That being said our family means the absolute world to us. They are our prized possession in this world and besides each other, what we value most.** We could not have made it through our happiest or most challenging times without the love and support of our families. We try to meet any chance we get throughout the year by doing monthly dinners, BBQs, yearly reunions, and special trips together! When we can't meet in person we are so thankful for technology like Zoom and FaceTime that we are able to stay in touch, even from far away. Our family is so eager to meet our future child!

FABIO'S EXTENDED FAMILY



MELANIE'S EXTENDED FAMILY



FABIO'S EXTENDED FAMILY



extended family

MELANIE'S MOM & STEP-DAD

Melanie's mom and step-dad have been our biggest supporters from the day we got married. Every step of our journey they have been right by our side. They are the true definition of true love and set a wonderful example of family for all of their children. Melanie's mom cannot wait to be a stay at home "Gigi" and her step-dad is looking forward to loving on his grandchild as well.



MELANIE'S FATHER & NJ FAMILY FABIO'S MOM & DAD

Melanie's dad lives in New Jersey, where she was born. Although we do not get to see each other as much as we'd like, we do try to visit once a year in the winter time. Melanie's dad also works in education and loves South Florida sports teams, like Fabio!

Fabio's parents are the most fun loving energetic people you will ever meet. Fabio's parents live in Colombia, but his mother does frequently take trips to California for extended periods. We like to visit when we can, but Fabio's mom loves to plan trips to new places for us to explore!



HOLIDAYS & CELEBRATIONS

our traditions

We love to celebrate with our family and make memories together. Yearly, we celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas at Melanie's parents' home. On Thanksgiving we gather together early in the morning and watch the parade together. Then, we spend the day cooking, putting up our Christmas tree and decorating the house.



OUR FAMILY IS
SO EXCITED FOR US!

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Christmas is spent with cousins, aunt/uncles and close friends playing games and enjoying each other's company. For the Fourth of July, we usually take a trip to the beach or a lake house. If we stay home we are for sure outside by the pool BBQing.

Fabio comes from a big Colombian family. Some of his family still reside in Colombia, so we get to make trips on occasion to visit!





Our hopes for the future

T O G E T H E R

We pray daily that the Lord blesses us with the opportunity to parent a child of our own. Our path has been filled with an immense amount of learning and growth as individuals and a couple. **We have so much love to share, that we have no doubts that the child placed in our home will be loved through the highs and lows of life.** We have a family that will make the best aunts/uncles, grandparents, and cousins no matter what. We know that we will stand together to support and love each other and grow as a family.

We will also do whatever it takes to help our child be successful. We are supporters of education, but also understand that everyone has different talents and strengths. **We plan to help our child establish their passions and use those gifts to help educate and foster a love of learning through those passions.**

W E H O P E T O A L W A Y S

- Our hope is to provide our child with a safe and happy life.
- We both believe in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. We plan to raise our child in the church and through the Christian faith.
- We hope to be able to take our child on adventures and to explore and grow together.
- We are looking forward to celebrating all of the accomplishments our child will make and be there to nurture them as needed through their struggles.
- We would like to be able to share letters and photos yearly with our child's first family to keep them updated on the amazing things happening in our child's life!

FABIO AND MELANIE

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and love. But the greatest of these is
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1 Corinthians 13:13

