

ZECH + ELIZABETH



WHEREVER YOU LEAD ME,
I know you won't leave me.
Wherever you call me,
You will make a way

WHEREVER WE'RE GOING,
I will be holding
To the promise you have made
You will make a way.

MY GOD WILL MAKE A WAY,
Yes, my God will make a way.

-Make a Way, I Am They

When we began the adoption process, we played this song on repeat. We used it as a prayer and promise from God - for our family and for yours. It filled us with confidence, even when we didn't know what the future would look like. It's why we believe we are exactly where we need to be right now.

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU



HELLO!

a quick look at who we are.

IF WE COULD ONLY SIT DOWN TOGETHER, I'd pull a pan of warm cookies out of the oven, I'd pour you a cup of hot coffee (or lemonade or sweet tea or goat's milk, if that's what you would like!) and I'd ask to hear your story. *Who you are and what has brought you here means so much to us,* because even if we don't know you yet, YOU mean so much to us. And we're honored to share a bit of ourselves with you.

1. WE AREN'T THE TYPICAL COUPLE YOU SEE LOOKING TO ADOPT. We already have a big family. We love the noise, chaos, and adventures that come with a full house. And still, we have room in our home and our hearts and are so excited to meet the baby and his/her first mama that God has for us.

2. WE LIVE IN A TINY WYOMING TOWN.

We have goats, chickens, cows, and a mini potbelly pig. We love the wide open spaces and the freedom to go and do anything.

3. WE HOMESCHOOL OUR KIDS. We want them to learn responsibly, hard work, how to dream and encourage them to be whoever they want to be!

4. WE SPEND A LOT OF TIME AS A FAMILY.

We laugh, play, and go on adventures. We value experiences rather than things.

5. FAITH AND GOD ARE IMPORTANT PIECES OF OUR LIFE. Without Him we would have nothing. He has made us who we are, carried us through the hard times, and given us hope for the future.

-zech and elizabeth

MEET ZECH

adventurous, hardworking, and dedicated



A BIT OF THE BASICS

I'm 35 years old, 5'10 with (some) brown hair, a brown beard, and blue eyes.

MY EDUCATION

I have a certification in Industrial Maintenance and work in Mine Maintenance.

A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THINGS

Fishing // Hunting // Backpacking // Camping// Spending time with my family // Traveling // Working on our homestead

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT ME. My real name is Zechariah, but most people call me Zech. I'm quiet and like to spend time at home. Big cities and crowds are not my forte, but they make me love our home, our family, and our simple life that much more! I'm rarely serious; I love to joke around and have a good time. My favorite place to be is in the mountains. I once served in the Marines as Presidential Security to George W. Bush. It was exciting, but what I really enjoy is quality time with my wife, watching my kids learn new things, campfires in the summer, and going to the beach.



WHAT MY FRIENDS SAY ABOUT ME. My friends would tell you that I am hardworking, a good dad, and someone who stays true to who he is. I stand by my word with integrity and am loyal to the ones I love. I care for those who are hurting, and I stand up for what is right. I hope they would tell you that I'm fun, too; at least, I think I am!

WHAT I ENJOY MOST ABOUT BEING A DAD. The best parts of being a dad are the simple things - the moments that aren't forced, but just happen naturally as we do life. I love the times when we are all together. We laugh, joke, and have a good time. I love hearing about their lives and taking them to do the things I enjoyed as a kid. Fishing, camping, hiking. I love watching them grow and learn new things. I like hearing about their dreams and what they want to be when they grow up. I love knowing they can trust me to always have their back and that I can encourage them to keep pressing on.



zech in elizabeth's words:

ZECH IS THE LOVE OF MY LIFE. He is everything I ever wanted in a husband (ok, maybe he isn't as romantic as I would like, but other than, that he is pretty great!) I admire how hard he works and the way he takes care of us. He is talented and can do anything he sets his mind to do. He is extremely handy, which is amazing since I always have a long list of things for him to build for me. He loves God and has a heart to help others. He is faithful, steady, and wise. He isn't afraid to stand up for what's right. He loves to have fun and joke around. He loves his family and is a great dad! He is my best friend, biggest supporter, and the one I can always count on.

MEET ELIZABETH

creative, determined, and passionate



A BIT OF THE BASICS

I'm 32 years old, 5'2 with brown hair and brown eyes, and a homemaker.

MY EDUCATION

I attended nursing school and earned a certificate as a Birth Doula and Lactation Consultant as well as in Natural Health.

A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THINGS

Decorating our home // DIY projects // Gardening // Taking care of our animals // Baking goodies // Playing piano + singing

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT ME. I

love simplicity and always try to do my best; I feel like these two things are at the core of who I am. I've worked really hard to simplifying our life, and I've found that making memories is far better than "collecting things". I love to plan adventures and make things special for my family. Our home is my favorite place, but I love to travel and am always up for an adventure. Random bit: I have Nigerian Dwarf milking goats. I never imagined I would love milking goats, but it's really fun! And the soap, cheese and yogurt I make from their milk is amazing!

WHAT MY FRIENDS SAY ABOUT ME. When I asked a few friends to describe me, they responded, "You are compassionate, caring, and a good listener. You're giving and a godly example of a wife and mother. You are hard worker and not afraid to do the hard things. You are so encouraging, kind, thoughtful, and generous!" That reminded me that I love others like I love Christ - deeply and authentically. (And that I'm good at decorating weddings.)

WHAT I ENJOY MOST ABOUT BEING A MOM.

I love the snuggles, the kisses, and the hugs. The conversations and the questions. I love watching them grow and learn new things. I love the adventures we have when we're traveling, camping, and creating. I love the sound of their laughter and listening to them play together. I am their biggest cheerleader! I want them to know they can do anything they set their mind to do! My kids are my world, and I love being a mom!



elizabeth in zech's words:

ELIZABETH IS DEFINITELY MY BETTER HALF. I don't know where i would be without her. She is always there to listen and seems to always know exactly what to say. She is a hard worker and is never afraid to put in the hours to make sure that myself and our family are taken care of. I love coming home and seeing her smile and listening to her talk about her day. She loves our kids well and enjoys singing songs with them and teaching them Bible stories. When she sets her mind to something, there is no stopping her. I love that about her. Together, I would say we make a pretty great team.



ALFA

OUR STORY

WE ARE HIGH SCHOOL SWEETHEARTS. We have been married for 14 years and together for 20! It's crazy to even think about. The time has gone by so fast, and we feel blessed to have the life we have together.

WHEN WE THINK BACK ON THE FIRST TIME WE MET, WE LAUGH. I (Elizabeth) thought his pants were too short and he thought my hair looked like a boy! It definitely wasn't love at first site, but it wasn't long until his blonde hair and blue eyes drew me in. We started writing letters back and forth - this was the year 2000, remember! I still have most of them. We became friends quickly and fell in love quickly, too. It wasn't long before I had no doubt in my mind that I would marry him one day.

AFTER HIGH SCHOOL, ZECH JOINED THE MARINES AND I WENT OFF TO COLLEGE.

They say, "Absence makes the heart grow fonder", and I believe it's true. It was a bittersweet time, but we're thankful for the conversations we had, the trust we built, and the confidence that came.

ZECH PROPOSED A FEW YEARS LATER WHEN HE WAS HOME ON LEAVE. We had to wait another 2 years until his duty with the military was over, but finally, we were married.

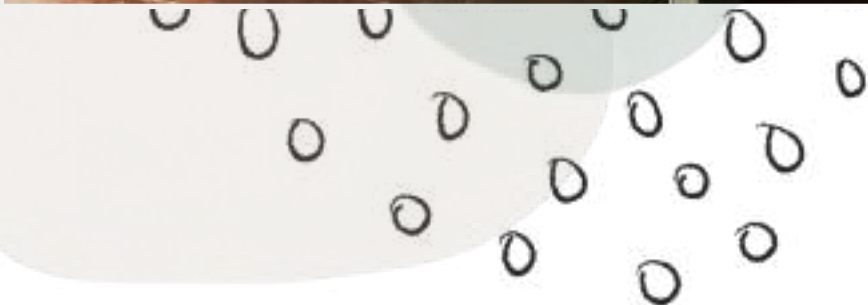
I SMILE THINKING BACK. It was such a beautiful day. I sang a song I had written for Zech and we rested in the knowledge that we'd never be apart again.

there's no one else.

WHEN WE GOT MARRIED, WE VOWED TO LOVE AND HONOR ONE ANOTHER, NO MATTER WHAT. It hasn't always been easy and we're not perfect by any means, but because of God's love and mercy we have always managed to get back up and keep going. We love each other deeply and will spend our lives learning to love even more.



we always wanted **A BIG FAMILY...**





THERE IS LITERALLY NOTHING BETTER THAN BEING SURROUNDED BY EACH OTHER. Our kids always have someone to turn to - a playmate, a partner, a confidant, an encourager, a comforter, a helper, a secret keeper, a best friend. Another little one is going to fit right in.

meet our beautiful CHILDREN...

THEY'RE GROWING AND CHANGING AND BECOMING THESE LITTLE PEOPLE WITH BIG PERSONALITIES. They have dreams and ambitions and amazing lives to live, and we love being their parents. We believe in raising children who are willing to stand up, speak out, and fight for what is right. They are each stepping into this more every day, and we're so proud of who they are.

- **KAYDA IS ARTISTIC, HELPFUL, AND LOVING.** She is an amazing big sister who loves art, the mountains, backpacking, and camping. She's determined.
- **MICAH IS SMART, KIND, AND HARDWORKING.** He has a huge heart. He loves to read and learn new things.
- **LAILA IS CARING AND STRONG-WILLED.** She is bubbly and kind hearted and eager to please. She loves babies and can't wait for a little girl to play with.
- **LEVI IS HARDWORKING AND ACTIVE.** He always has a smile on his face and is looking for his next great adventure. He is a natural leader and so much fun.
- **BENJAMIN IS QUIET + CARING.** He's quiet and loves to be with mom. He's always thinking and wanting to learn.
- **JACOB IS FUNNY AND ACTIVE.** He loves to make people laugh and help when he can. He'll be such a good big brother!



KAYDA age 12



MICAH age 10



LAILA *age 8*



LEVI *age 8*



BENJAMIN *age 5*



JACOB *age 3*



why we are **ADOPTING...**

OUR STORY FEELS DIFFERENT THAN THAT OF MOST PEOPLE. We have never walked the difficult road of infertility or miscarriage, and we have six beautiful children - 5 who are biological and 1 who joined our family through foster care. But there has always been this desire to adopt in our hearts, too.

BEING PARENTS IS EVERYTHING TO US. It wasn't long after we got married that we began having children. Every two years, it seemed we were expecting another little blessing! We love each of them beyond words; they're all so different and unique and hold a special place in our hearts. We are so thankful for each one of them and the family we get to be, and yet, it still feels like someone in our family is missing.

WHEN WE MET OUR SECOND DAUGHTER, TWO YEARS BEFORE BECOMING LICENCED FOSTER PARENTS, all our old dreams of adopting came rushing back. As soon as we were licenced, we asked about her and were surprised to hear she was still in foster care. We began praying daily, asking God if it was His will that she might join our family. How lucky are we to love her forever?

EVEN NOW, THIS DESIRE TO ADOPT IS ABOUT MORE THAN WANTING A BABY. It's a desire to step up and fill the calling that we believe God has for us. To love like we've been loved. To walk alongside a mom. To be there, supporting her, praying for her, and loving her no matter what.

SOME OF OUR KIDS' FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT GROWING UP IN A BIG FAMILY:

1. There is always someone to play with.
2. Vacations, birthdays and holidays are extra fun because we have each other.
3. Our house is loud and crazy, but we laugh and joke and are never bored.
4. We always have a brother or sister who will watch out for + stand up for us.
5. We can split into teams for family game night and enjoy the competition.



what a day in our family LOOKS LIKE...





LET'S BE HONEST, IT CAN BE SUMMED UP IN TWO WORDS: BEAUTIFUL CHAOS. A typical day starts bright and early with chores. This usually turns into playing tag on the hay or swinging from the new rope in the barn. Our school day bounces between homework, cheese making, science experiments, and reading books on the couch. Evenings are spent running around outside until bathtime beckons, dinner is ready, family devotions are shared, and we're off to bed.



in our family,
WE VALUE...



EXPERIENCES.
*Things come and go and break,
but memories last a lifetime.*



HARD WORK.
*We encourage each other to dream
big and go after the life you want.*





OUR FAITH.

we put God first and teach our kids they're wonderfully made.



ENCOURAGEMENT.

we encourage each other, speak kindly, + say I love you often.



LOYALTY.

we stick together, defend each other and always help each other out.



THIS PLACE

that we call our home, sweet home



ABOUT OUR HOME

We live in a three-story log home on 12 acres of land. It's cozy, lived-in, and perfect for our big and growing family!

We are surrounded by wide open spaces and an amazing view of the Rocky Mountains. We also always have some kind of house project going on, so it looks more and more like "us" every single day. It's a place where we all feel like we belong.

ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY

Our town is a very small ranching community. There are only 300-400 people, who live here, but the ones who do feel like family. There is a school, a church, and a mercantile (which has some of the best ice cream around!). There's also a doctor's office, two restaurants and a post office. It may not seem like much, but it's everything we need. Not to mention, what we lack in size, we make up in character and beauty! The town is surrounded by mountains and gorgeous views. The people are welcoming and friendly and willing to help. Everyone comes together for both celebrations and hard times. We love raising our kids here.



LIFE ON OUR HOMESTEAD. We always knew we wanted to raise our kids in the country. We loved the idea of having animals, a garden, and lots of room for our kids to run and play. Moving here almost five years ago was the best decision we ever made! We have chickens, goats, and a pet pig. We also have 4-H pigs and steers that the kids show in the county fair. Half of our goats are used for backpacking in the mountains and the other half are for milking. We make cheese, yogurt, and are working on soap.

EVERYONE HAS A PART TO PLAY. And we all pitch in to help. Each of the kids have an animal that they take care of, Zech the barn, and Elizabeth the garden and her goats. It's a lot of work, but we make so many memories in the day-to-day. The kids can often be found rolling around in the hay with their animals or running around in the pasture. Even big project days usually end with a 4-Wheeler ride, water fights or a campfire. We can't imagine anything better.

a million dollar view

WE MIGHT NOT HAVE TREES AND GREEN GRASS, but we are surrounded by sagebrush and wide open spaces that remind us daily how creative God can be. It's a million dollar view out every window and every door! Since we live so close to the mountains, various rivers, and streams, adventure is easy! And there is always something waiting to be explored. We love to camp, fish, ride 4-wheelers, and go on other outdoor adventures. We spend a LOT of time outside, especially in the warmer months, and our kids love that there is always a brother or sister to explore with. Even our littlest ones tag along and find so much joy in soaking up the adventure with their big siblings.





life on our
HOMESTEAD...



SLOWER PACE.

we enjoy a slower paced life; it's easier to stop and savor moments.



FAMILY GARDEN.

It's fun to watch the plants grow and eat food out of our backyard.





OPEN SPACES.

we love the wide open spaces our kids have to run around and play.



RAISING ANIMALS.

we each have "our animals" and we love spring when babies come!



MEMORIES.

the very best part of all this is the experiences we share.



other things WE ENJOY...





WHILE WE LOVE BEING ON OUR FARM, WE REALLY ENJOY VENTURING OFF IT, TOO. We love camping and backpacking in the mountains // fishing in the summertime // skiing in the winter // going to the beach and having sandcastle competitions // baking together // movies, games, and popcorn on Friday nights // pancakes or waffles on Saturday mornings

SUPPORTED BY

our sweet family and so many friends



ZECH'S FAMILY

If I had to describe my family in just a few words, they would be loud and lively. We have always loved to have fun, now there is just more people to do it with!

I grew up with my mom, dad, and two siblings: a brother and a sister. Family was always a very important part of our life, and we learned early to love, support and encourage one another in all that we did. We have always been very close and still get together whenever we can to play games and eat good food!

While my sister and her family live farther away, we see my brother and his boys often. My parents are also close by. They recently built a cabin near us, and we love spending time there. Grandma and Grandpa are very involved in our kids' lives, and we couldn't be more grateful for their unwavering love and support.

FAVORITE FAMILY TRADITIONS

Playing board games // Eating // Spending time at Grandma and Grandpa's cabin // Hunting // Fishing // Laughing together



ELIZABETH'S FAMILY

My family is incredibly supportive, and I feel grateful to have grown up with parents who consistently showed my two older brothers and I what unconditional love looks like.

Our family has always been very close. Growing up, we lived on a ranch and did many things together. We were pretty involved in 4-H and raising animals; you could say my love for country life started early!

We don't get to see my brothers often, but my parents live very close by. My mom loves to babysit and tries to have one kid over each week - she's so good at making each one of them feel seen and special.



FAVORITE FAMILY TRADITIONS

One time each year, we ALL camp together. 4 families, 15 kids, 8 adults. We fish, cook, explore, build forts, laugh, enjoy campfires, eat smores, and play games. It's the best!

always supporting us



BOTH OF OUR FAMILIES HAVE ENTIRELY EMBRACED OUR FIRST ADOPTED DAUGHTER, and they cannot wait for another grandchild to love. They know our hearts and have walked alongside of us every step of the way. We cannot think of a single moment when they have not been supportive or when they have treated our adopted daughter any differently than our biological children. We are one family, and they have always celebrated that with us. We love knowing that this is the example of family our kids will grow up with - welcoming, accepting, honoring, encouraging, and loving one another deeply.



OUR PROMISE

just one more thing before you go

ABOVE EVERYTHING ELSE, we hope you walk away today knowing this: *You matter. You are beautiful. You are loved. And you are worthy.* Those four truths are more important than anything else we could say.

WE HOPE YOU HAVE SEEN THE LOVE WE HAVE FOR EACH OTHER, and the love we have for our kids. Each one is so unique, and we can't wait to watch another child grow into the person they're meant to be.

IF YOU SHOULD CHOOSE US TO JOIN YOU IN LOVING THIS CHILD, we want to share these few promises - for you and for them.

TO YOU, WE PROMISE...

- To love you, support you, and pray for you all the days of our life.
- To honor you with our words and speak often of your love and courage.
- To raise this child knowing you, whatever that may look like.

AND TO THIS CHILD, WE PROMISE...

- To love you unconditionally.
- To teach you about Jesus and his love.
- To pray for you and raise you in a way that pleases God.
- To provide a safe, loving, and happy home where you can find belonging.
- To surround you with family and friends who love and support you in all you do.
- To be present - celebrating with you the wins, lifting you up when life gets hard, protecting you always, fighting for you when you need us to, and always encouraging you to follow your dreams.

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING US TO BE HERE.

For taking the time to get to know us and for sharing with us a space in your heart.

Even though we may never meet, we want you to know that we are sincere when we say you have been on our hearts. Be strong and courageous, friend. You're not alone.

-zech and elizabeth

I choose you.
and I'll choose you,
over and over
and over.
without pause,
without a doubt,
in a heartbeat.
I'll keep
choosing you.