

## **PRAYER GUIDE**

As in every other area of life, talking to God about your adoption is one of the most important things you can do to prepare for your child. We have seen the Lord work in many ways through the adoption process, and through our agency, as direct results of the prayers of our staff, our supporters, and our adoptive parents. Adoptive parents have reported also about how, after diligent and daily prayer, the Lord has worked in their lives, in the hearts of their child's birthparent(s), and through the adoptive placement. Some adoptive parents have shared that they are praying daily for our agency, and we know that this is the source of our strength to keep us going through some of our more difficult and busy days.

The Bible teaches us that God wants us to talk to Him about everything and to be specific in our prayers (see David's prayers in the Psalms, Luke 18:1, I Thessalonians 5:17, James 5:16-18). While you are waiting to be matched – pray! Consider the following when you pray, and be specific and elaborate with the Lord:

- Be thankful for the Lord's unconditional love, for His provision, and His plan for your lives.
- Tell Him how you are feeling, whether that be impatient in waiting, angry when it seems everyone else is getting a child before you, sorrow from your hearts aching for a baby, or peace in His timing and selection.
- Seek wisdom and guidance from Him.
- Pray for women experiencing crisis pregnancies, that they would not abort their children, that the loving option of adoption would be presented to them, that they would be lead to our agency, that they would have a support system, that they would know the Lord personally, that they would have access to good prenatal care, that they would have a place to live in a positive environment, food to eat, and the strength to stop any addictions harmful to their unborn children and to their bodies.
- Pray about the degree of openness the Lord would want you to have with the birthparent(s) and any extended birth relations.
- Ask God for strength and wisdom to see and change any wrong thinking or attitudes that you may have toward adoption, toward the birthparent(s), toward what you think is the ideal adoption situation but may not be God's ideal situation for you.
- Pray for and thank the Lord for His perfect timing in bringing each piece of the adoption together.
- Thank the Lord now for His help in the future.

Once you are matched to your birthmother, and are waiting for the child to be born, keep praying! Pray for the child's birthmother, that she will have a healthy pregnancy and delivery, that she will have people in her life that support her adoption plan, that she will be drawn closer to the Lord and that He will guide her in the plan He wants for her unborn child.