

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age.

Matthew 28:19, 20 NIV

Bethany Christian Services *insider*

Summer 2006

DOUBLE BLESSINGS

By Donna White

If His plan for you is adoption, embrace it, and know it will be the most amazing adventure of your life.

We thought we would start a family immediately after we married, but God had different plans. We embarked



Chapple and Hannah

on a journey that would consist of many surgeries, IVF attempts, tubal pregnancies, and lots of tears. Though we prayed and prayed for a little one, we thought we could control our destiny. I think we knew deep down that God had a plan for us, but we thought we knew His plan. After seven years, we handed everything to Him. Infertility either pulls you apart or pushes you closer together. We were very blessed that we became closer partners. We were ready for whatever God had planned for us. We knew He would not abandon us, but guide us toward His plan.

Through all of this, we heard about Bethany Christian Services. We could not get information fast enough to pursue what we knew would be God's plan. As we completed our paperwork, we realized how amazing it would be to have multiples. The chances of adopting twins would be very slim, but we prayed. Our family and our church family prayed with us. We knew we were asking God for so much, but He would answer our prayers in His time, not ours. At one point, we even doubted His plan. One day, we received our waited call. We were chosen to be parents of twins! God rocked our world! We would so have two beautiful daughters—double blessings. It still amazes us how God



The White Family

worked through Bethany Christian Services to bring our family together. Looking back, every step on our journey and every tear we cried made us who we are today.

We brought our little darlings home to a house full of family and friends. We stayed up many nights cuddling with our girls in amazement. You love your spouse, but the love you have for your children is such a different love. It is so hard to explain in words. Our children will never have our blood type or genetics, but we would lay down our lives in a moment for our girls. They are part of our souls. As we celebrate their seventh birthday, we remember their birthmother with love and respect. We are forever grateful to her for making the unbelievable sacrifice of choosing us as Chapple and Hannah's mom and dad.

There is not a harder or more rewarding job than becoming a parent. Though our family came together through adoption, we still have the same issues and worries any parents have. We want to teach them right from wrong, teach them about God, and even teach them how to be a friend. We pray every night for guidance to raise our children the very best that we can.

The morning of their birthday was, of course, very exciting. Chapple and Hannah came to our bedroom very early and informed us that they had discussed and decided something. They wanted to take some of their birthday money and give it to Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. They explained that they knew Vanderbilt helped people feel better. Hannah was there for three days several years ago because of an asthma attack, and recently we had another friend's son spend several days

there. After further discussion, they wanted to supply coloring books and crayons to one of the floors at the hospital. How wonderful for seven-year-old girls to think of others on their birthday. As we said, they continue to amaze us.

We are blessed each and every day. Our daughters complete us. We never realized how amazing it would be. God is so good! The path He chose for us was one that has forever changed us as human beings. We know we are better parents and better people for the journey God chose for us. We would take the exact path again, including all the pain and sorrow, to have our two wonderful daughters. God has a plan for each and every one of us. If His plan for you is adoption, embrace it, and know it will be the most amazing adventure of your life.



Our Girls

ANNUAL REPORT 2005

Domestic Adoption	
Total number of infants placed (including private) . . .	31
International Adoption	
Total number of international adoption placements . . .	19
Foster Care	
Number of infants placed in interim care	6
Total number of licensed foster homes	5
Birthparent Counseling	
Number of clients served	29
Number of releases	17
Revenue	
Adoptions and counseling	324,800
Contributions	140,000
Other revenue	15,700
Total revenue	\$480,500
Expenses	
Pregnancy and adoption services	338,100
Support services	110,800
Designated for future services	31,600
Total expenses	\$480,500

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