

BILL *and* MAGGIE



BILL, MAGGIE, LAWSON, RILEY & WESLEY

THANK
YOU FOR
READING
OUR
STORY



OUR LETTER TO YOU

DEAR EXPECTANT MOTHER

Hi! We are Bill and Maggie. Thank you so much for taking the time to consider our family for your child. We understand that this decision can be filled with so many emotions. We want you to know that we have been praying for you, in this moment, as you look through profile books and consider adoption. We have been praying that you would feel peace, strength, courage and comfort from the Lord during this time. This is such a brave and sacrificial decision.

We want you to know that we do not take this decision to bring your child into our family lightly - actually we have spent several years praying and considering growing our family through adoption. We are grateful for the opportunity to love and raise your child. We are confident in this decision. Our ultimate hope for our children is to be passionate Jesus followers and people that can change the world. We are so grateful for your consideration and are ready, with open hearts to grow our family.





MEET THE FAM



BILL
"Dad"



FUN FACTS

- Loves being outdoors
- Funny, passionate, supportive, encouraging, motivating
- UGA football fan; sports card collector

MAGGIE
"Mom"



FUN FACTS

- Loves creating community
- Loyal, outgoing, fun, truth-speaker, loving
- Cinnamon coffee and dessert lover

LAWSON
9 years old



FUN FACTS

- Loves sports (cross country, basketball, baseball and swim)
- Responsible, dependable, funny, thoughtful
- Wise beyond his years

RILEY
7 years old



FUN FACTS

- Loves anything artsy and creative
- Caring, empathetic, and very friendly
- Enjoys gymnastics and learning how to cook things like eggs and oatmeal

WESLEY
4 years old



FUN FACTS

- Loves taking care of baby dolls
- A firecracker: stubborn, smart and so funny!
- Does whatever it takes to keep up with her older siblings



WHY ADOPTION

Shortly after having our third child, we both knew our family wasn't yet complete and felt a desire to grow our family through adoption in the future. We prayed for several years asking God if and when we should adopt. After walking with several friends through foster care, domestic and international adoptions, we knew adoption was right for our family and now is the right time. We are both ready to love this child as our own and our kids are beyond excited to have another sibling and built-in best friend. We are most looking forward to watching how our family will come together to support the new addition. Our kids are so excited about this new baby and have been asking so many questions. They can't wait to help take care of the baby! Maggie has said for several years that it feels like there is a family member missing at our kitchen table and we are truly excited to add to our family!



OUR LOVE STORY



HOW IT ALL BEGAN

Written by Maggie

Our families have known each other since they were teenagers. My dad and Bill's parents grew up in the same church youth group and then our families attended the same church in our hometown. Billy and I went to the same high school and youth group activities. However, we didn't really start talking until after he graduated from college. We both worked together at our hometown Chick-fil-A. Initially, I thought Billy was hilarious. By Christmas that year, we were officially dating! We spent a lot of time together working at Chick-fil-A and eating some late-night waffles at Waffle House. We discovered we had similar values and beliefs, as well as dreams of a big family one day.

THE PROPOSAL

Written by Bill

I proposed in a beautiful park by a massive water fountain where I arranged for a photographer to take our pictures. After a quick photo session, we arrived at a local restaurant where all of our friends and family were waiting to celebrate. We were able to celebrate with some of our favorite people in a town that is still one of our favorites!

OUR WEDDING

Written by Maggie

We got married in an old train station in downtown Atlanta. Our wedding day was magical! We were surrounded by our favorite people, especially because our families had known each other for so long and we grew up in the same town and church. Billy doesn't really like cake, so instead of a groom's cake, our boss at our old Chick-fil-a let us borrow an ice cream machine and we served Chick-fil-a milkshakes at our reception!

We have been married for 11 years. The thing that makes us the strongest is that no matter the season - hard or difficult, slow or busy - we still choose each other. We believe that God has put us together and are stronger together than we are apart. We continue to choose grace over bitterness and humility over selfishness. We know that with the Lord, we can do anything together, no matter how difficult! One thing that we have implemented practically in our marriage is a marriage meeting every Sunday night. This is a time where we express gratitude to each other, go through the schedule for the week, plan date nights or vacations and work out any concerns or disagreements. We have found this rhythm to be helpful in keeping communication open and it keeps us organized and intentional with our time. We are able to resolve conflict through honest conversations, no matter how difficult they are.



THINGS WE ENJOY TOGETHER:

- Going on adventures
- Pickleball
- Running
- Concerts
- Hiking in national parks



MEET MAGGIE

WRITTEN BY BILL

I admire my wife's ability to accomplish the things she sets her mind to. She was able to finish nurse practitioner school, while having a newborn baby and still working all at the same time. She is extremely loyal to both our family and friends. She is one of the most intentional people I know about planning and making time to spend with the people that need and want to be with her the most. I love that she is willing to take on any challenge we face together with confidence and determination. She also finds a way to stay positive no matter what goes on in our life—that we can not only survive, but thrive in whatever season we are in!

It is very important to Maggie that she spends time with the kids. She takes time to think through what would be fun or special for each of our three kids. Sometimes that could be as simple as what they would want for dessert or breakfast, but other times it could look like an elaborate birthday she plans for them with every detail well thought out. She is very involved in volunteering at school and being involved in the things they care about. She is intentional about having conversations with our kids about what's going on in their life, how they are feeling and encouraging them in their strengths. I think she is looking forward to the opportunity to encourage and prioritize another child in our family the same way she does for each of our three children.



- **I'm looking forward to:** watching a baby learn to talk, walk, and grow. I love rocking them to sleep and waking them up in the morning. It is magical!
- **I Enjoy:** bringing people together in community, serving others through hospitality, traveling, cooking, and baking (I'm best known for my biscuits, ice cream cake, and oreo cheesecake)!



CAREER: I am a cardiology nurse practitioner. I work part-time, about 24 hours a week and one weekend a month. My practice is really great about getting time off. Most of the providers I work with have kids so everyone understands the balance of work and family. I will have 12 weeks off for maternity leave. Our childcare plan will likely be daycare two to three days a week at the same daycare our four year old goes to. It is a sweet little church daycare that is actually right outside of our neighborhood— so close we could walk!



"My greatest prayer for our children is that they would feel the joy and contentment in life that comes from following Jesus."



MEET BILL

WRITTEN BY MAGGIE

Billy is so intentional— he prefers structure and balance. He dedicates time to family and friends to catch up and learn what is going on in their lives. He isn't afraid to ask the hard questions and often speaks encouragement and pours wisdom into others. He is also really funny - he loves to say crazy or goofy things just to see my reaction to it (or really, just to see me roll my eyes!). When he puts his mind to something he is totally focused on it, whether that is an exercise plan or coaching basketball. He strives for excellence. He leads our family well and points us to Christ. He also tries to be so intentional with our kids. He points them to Jesus often. While he pushes our kids to work hard, he ensures they are having fun in whatever they are pursuing. He often leads family work outs or walks around the neighborhood. He loves to play basketball on the driveway or help Riley work on her latest gymnastics move. Because we often share drop off/pick up duties, he is often helping with homework too. He recently started collecting sports cards with Lawson so that they could have a hobby together that would be timeless. He really does it all! I think he is so excited to add another member to our family. He is looking forward to seeing how our family comes together to get to know and love this new addition. I think he is looking forward to a different experience of bringing another child into the family. He is looking forward to having more of a hand in things like feeding and putting the baby to bed.



- **I'm looking forward to:** watching how our family will come together to support the new addition. Our kids are so excited and have already been making plans for how they can help. I am truly excited to have another child doing life with us.
- **I Enjoy:** being outdoors, running, hiking, riding a bike, leading our family exercises, and serving our school boards and church (Maggie and I lead a young married group) .

CAREER: I am a financial advisor coach and have been with my current firm for 7 years. I have the blessing of setting my own schedule every week. This allows me to be extremely flexible with our family when it comes to picking up kids, coaching sports, and being really involved in their lives. My firm is also very generous and gives me four months of paid paternity leave off when we adopt. This will help ensure a smooth transition for our family when the baby comes and also give me important time to bond and spend with our new addition.



"My greatest wish is for our children is that they find their own authentic relationship with God. If they have a strong faith, that will lead to peace and confidence in whatever they set out to do in life."



OUR FAMILY MANTRA



**"LOVE GOD. LOVE
YOUR NEIGHBOR
AS YOURSELF. BE
PATIENT WITH ONE
ANOTHER. SPEAK LIFE,
NOT DEATH. TELL THE
TRUTH. ENCOURAGE
ONE ANOTHER."**

This is our family mantra. It is a mix of our expectations for each other as a family and how we expect our kids to act outside of our home. We want to be known for these pillars!





WORD OF THE WEEK

We also pick a word of the week during the school year to try and focus on as a family. Examples are honesty, perseverance, and humility. We try to talk about how we can do this at school and work and encourage each other in pursuing these qualities.

ON THE SAME TEAM

Another thing that we say a lot is, “We are on the same team!” Whether that is in a disagreement between Billy and I or bickering between the kids. It is always a good reminder that we are a family who chooses each other, is for each other, and that we were chosen by God to be together.



MORE THAN A VACATION

Billy and I try to go on a weekend trip at the end of each year to discuss commitments and activities that worked for our family, or didn't. We also decide what we are committing to the following year and if we have any new family goals. We believe that time alone together is so important to the health of our marriage, but it also provides time for our kids to spend time with our parents. Our families play a huge role in the lives of our children and we feel it is so important that our kids have a close relationship with their grandparents outside of us.

OUR KIDS

All of our kids are so excited about adoption! They realize that this is a family commitment and are committed to helping out— changing seats in the car, sharing a room, and helping take care of the baby. They understand and are excited about welcoming a new sibling into their hearts and our family for life.



PARENTING WITH PURPOSE



“...WE GENUINELY ENJOY SPENDING TIME WITH
OUR KIDS AND GETTING TO KNOW THEM MORE
AND MORE EVERY DAY.”

Our parenting style is structured, flexible, and intentional. We are always trying to set consistent expectations, but also account for a long day at school, or a hard sports practice. In the early years of parenting, our goal is to teach our children how to obey and show them the love and grace of God. As they grow older, our goals are to grow academically, be respectful, and choose to follow Jesus. We try to find time to slow down and rest

and plan for fun together— whether that is a vacation, a family fun night with friends or Friday night movie night. We prayerfully consider decisions regarding school and extracurricular activities. Being parents is so fun! I don't want to discount all the hard work, difficult decisions and sacrifice. But, we genuinely enjoy spending time with our kids and getting to know them more and more every day.



OUR EXTENDED FAMILIES

A LEGACY OF LOVE & SUPPORT





BILL'S SIDE

My parents are Pat and Ronny, and I have four siblings. Katie is married to David and they have four kids: Arden (12), Beren (10), Caedmon (9), Deira (6). My two younger siblings, Bethany and Tucker, are not married and do not have any children. My parents live an hour away and my sister Katie and her family live out of state. We see my parents on a regular basis, about once a month. We really enjoy spending time together, especially when everyone can be in town! They are also very supportive of the kids in all of their activities and are happy to keep them for weekend sleepovers or help out when we are out of town.

We feel that our families partner with us as we raise our kids. They encourage us and choose to support us.

MAGGIE'S SIDE

My parents are Mark and Brooks. I have one sibling, Jordan who is two years younger than me. She is not married and doesn't have any kids. My parents, sister and us all live about twenty minutes from each other. We are a close-knit family that enjoys spending time together. We see each other several times a month. Both my parents and sister are active in our children's lives and spend intentional time with each of them by supporting them at sporting events, church musicals, helping out with carpool, lunch dates, and weekend sleepovers.



OUR HOME

Our home is a four bedroom and two and a half bath home. The front and back yards are great spaces for play. We have a fire pit, trampoline, and Ninja warrior course in the fenced in back yard. There is also a fig tree that the kids love to climb on. In the front yard, we enjoy playing baseball in the front yard or riding bikes/scooters on the driveway. We know many of our neighbors and often catch up on a walk or even on our driveway! Our neighborhood has been around for over sixty years, so there are many mature trees that fill the yards and line the streets of our community.

Our home was recently renovated. We love to entertain and the renovations allow us to have the space to do that! It also has allowed us to use our space more efficiently– like a home office for Billy to work from home in and a laundry room!

We have Friday night family movie night, or evenings on the driveway playing basketball. We love eating ice cream after dinner, making cookies together, playing board games, and doing puzzles. We also love breakfast– a huge Southern breakfast with biscuits, grits, hashbrown, bacon and sausage with a big fruit salad!



COMMUNITY

We live in a little community right outside the city in Georgia. We are a twenty minute drive into the city where there are lots of activities like the zoo, aquarium, sporting events and concerts. Our community often has events for everyone to participate in– a Christmas tree lighting, arts festival and fourth of July Parade! Our community has lots of playgrounds to choose from with many sidewalks to walk and ride bikes on. We are close enough to the center of our town to walk to our local coffee shop or pizza place. We are members of our community pool and spend summer days at the pool with friends. We have also participated in our city recreation leagues for baseball, football and basketball. Our town is definitely a more settled, family-oriented town. When people move here, it is typically because they want to “settle down” outside the city. We love it!



*In our home, we are intentional.
supportive of one another, and truly
enjoy spending time together.*



LIFE TOGETHER

During the week, you might find us supporting one another in activities, playing basketball on the driveway, or eating dinner together as a family. Our weekends include some time for rest and we are intentional about going to church. We enjoy hanging out with our extended family or family fun nights with our friends.

WHAT WE ENVISION FOR THE YEARS AHEAD

We love our community and do not have any plans to move! We love to travel and want to continue traveling as a family. We really enjoy planning adventure trips– hiking, camping, kayaking and taking our kids along for the adventure! We have felt like our family is missing someone at our table and are excited to complete our family. However, we are open to whatever the Lord leads us to in the future.

We plan to continue raising our family with Christian values. We are very involved in our local church and Christian school. We are part of a community that supports us, loves us, encourages us, shows up for us, and holds us accountable in our walk with Jesus, in marriage, and in parenting.

Our goal in parenting is to raise obedient children who choose to follow Jesus throughout their life. When we correct our children, the focus is to teach them a heart of obedience and self-control. We want them to grow in relationships and learn to serve others with humility and grace.





THOUGHTS ON EDUCATION

EQUIPPED FOR THEIR FUTURE

We send our children to a Christian school. We feel that it is important that our children receive an education from a place with similar values as us. We are also open to pivoting to a school if one of our children needs something different.

We are prepared to send our children to college if they choose. Our hope is that they discover a passion and work hard to carry that out! We are committed to providing an education through college to each of our children. If they choose to pursue a different path, then we will encourage and support them as well.

BEFORE YOU GO



Thank you so much for taking the time to read through our profile and consider bringing us into your story. We have spent so much time thinking about and praying for you during this journey. We hope that when you read through our profile that you feel the love of our family come off the page. We are grateful for the opportunity to love and raise your child. We are committed to sharing your child's story with them along the way as they grow up. We are committed to praying for you and including you along in this journey. We are open to discuss your preferences in terms of connection, visits and communication. We are so grateful for this opportunity.

Bill and Maggie

