

THE JOURNEY - FROM BEING -ALONE TOBEING ADOPTED

NOTES:



Enough is our Concordia University Texas theme for the 2023-2024 academic year.

CONNECT

with self and others:

1. When was a time you felt like you were abandoned? Like nothing was going your way. Or share a time when you felt like your world was just turned upside down.

2. How did you see God through that struggle and through those times of feeling lost?

3. How can you feel like you are connected to others at CTX?

ENGAGE

the word:

When I was 18 months old, I was left on a doorstep alone. (Lizzie Tacchetti here) My biological mom wanted to go be with her friends and live her life as she was around 21 years old. My biological father was at work and had no idea she was bringing me by. She just dropped me off in my car seat, rang the doorbell and left. I sat there for hours before the neighbors came out because they heard a baby crying. Immediately they called my dad, but he was still at work, so he called my grandmother, or his mom. Over the next few months, they went through the process of adoption. My biological parents signed away their rights to me and handed them off to my dad's parents. But as time went on, my dad's parents ended up getting a divorce, so it is just me and my grandmother.

Throughout my childhood and even my teen years, my bio mom has come in and out of my life but only when it was convenient for her. My dad remarried when I was 14 and has been semi-consistent in my life since. But I grew up in a life where people were leaving and coming back. Nothing was really the same except for living with my grandmother, who I know as mom because she was the woman that raised me. I never really questioned my adoption. I never questioned why this would happen to me. As I got older, I realized it wasn't normal to fill out the guardian portion of paperwork or not be able to fill in the 2nd parent lines in school forms. I started to think about what my life would be like if I had a normal mom and dad. But as I think about that more, I look at the things I would not have gone through with a normal childhood. I wouldn't be as independent. I wouldn't be as appreciative for everything people do for me since I had to do everything for myself. I would not have the life skills or the ability to figure things out myself, as I had to do as a child.



¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.

¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.

¹² Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—

¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

- John 1: 10-13

NOTES:____

READ John 1: 10-13 NOTES:

I never was the type to go to God. It was never openly talked about in my house. We went to church on Sundays, but then I went to a Lutheran high school. It wasn't until my junior and senior year I really got into looking at the Bible and looking into why God does what He does. I tried to find those answers throughout the Bible such as why he would bring me into this world and why He would put me into a world where my parents weren't able to care for me and love me.

After years of questioning God and searching through His word for a reason. I came across this scripture. To me, this scripture is telling us that no matter what happens on earth, we are God's children. We will always be God's children, no matter if we are with our biological parents or someone that is not related to us in any way. We can trust Him and believe in His word because He is our Father. We are adopted by God through His death on the cross, through baptism, through believing in His word, and through living life out in Him.

SHARE

apply to your life:

1. Where can we turn when we feel like we have no place and/or no purpose in this crazy world that we live in?

2. What does it mean to be a child of God to you? How can we show that in our daily lives?

3. When was a time that you saw God's plan at work, even if it went against your own plans?



PRAYER:

PRAYER: Dear God, I thank you. I thank you for always being there for me. For not abandoning me in my times of sin. For not giving up on me when I do you wrong. I thank you for this opportunity in life to be made new and the journey that I know is not ending but has only just begun. **Amen.**



QUESTIONS:

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2. What does it mean to be a child of God to you? How can we show that in our daily lives?

3. When was a time that you saw God's plan at work, even if it went against your own plans?does that then mean for your life of attacking toxic thoughts?