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THE NEW BIRTH

By Irvin L. Rozier

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THIS FOR ALL YOU MOTHERS (AND DADS) WHO HAVE PRAYED FOR THEIR CHILDREN

This is story number nine (out of fifty) from my book, My Walk with the Lord, www.selahbooks.com

Psalm 40. 1,2 "I waited patiently for the Lord; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings."

Christmas 1972 was my first Christmas away from home. I was in the Army stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. I received a package from Mama. As I opened it, I uncovered some fresh Georgia pecans, some homemade fruitcake, a bottle of fresh cane syrup, and a few other items. At the bottom of the box was a Bible. During that period of my life, I really didn't have much to do with God and his ways.

During the following years, I would sometimes pick up that Bible and try to read...I sure didn't understand much of what I was reading. All the begats got to me.

The years 1985 and 1986 were trying times for me. I was still in the Army and was having a great career when my family life fell apart. My wife walked out and left me with three small children. At first, I tried to put the blame on others when deep inside I knew I was to blame. I needed something but didn't know what would ease my pain.

Well, I was brought up in church (Proverbs 22.6: "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.") I figured I'd go to the local church for help. As I counseled with the pastor, he gave me a sheaf of papers I had to read and fill out, and then he would talk to me about becoming a member..I didn't need that! I needed Jesus, but no one pointed me to Him.

On January 3, 1987, about 9:30 PM, I looked up on the bookshelf. There was that Bible my Mama had given me years ago. I pulled it down, dusted off the cover, and opened it up. The words of the Psalmist

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(Psalm 40. 1,2,) jumped off the pages and spoke to my heart. As tears poured down my cheeks, I said "God, if You are real, save me!" Immediately Jesus came, and I was born again and I knew it! I felt like I was being washed whiter than snow.

You see, I had been under conviction of the Holy Ghost for a long time. God rearranged the circumstances of my life to get my attention. Thank God for a Mama who thought enough of me to give me a Bible.

Matthew 11.28 "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Since that day over 17 years ago, the Lord has used me greatly..in all kinds of ways...Parents, don't give up on your children..Continue to pray for them

Irvin L. Rozier, Captain (Retired) US Army, still serving as a soldier in God's Army

preacher, author, retired Captain, US Army

Tips For Avoiding Adoption Fraud

By Karl Hinsworth

For many people, adoption is a wonderful way to have a child and start a family. Although not an easy decision for the birth mother or the adoptive parents, with the assistance of a reputable adoption agency and facilitator, good matches can be made and the adoption process successful and with little stress. In addition to agencies, adoptive parents can also find children independently through local newspaper advertisements or on the internet through various registry services.

Take the online option for example. With this, if you were interested in adopting, you would have the possibility of viewing profiles to include in-depth details about both birth mother, possibly birth father, and the baby if born, along with photographs. However, this type of service also benefits the birth mother and/or father in that they too can view potential parents for the baby. Once a connection is made, initial communication would take place via email, phone, or letters, allowing each party to share information or ask questions.

If the two parties believe there is a potential match, a meeting would be scheduled to meet in person. The thing to remember is that most adoption processes, even those done independently go very well. Unfortunately, as with many things, there is a slight risk, especially when using the internet to look for a baby in which a woman may pretend to be pregnant just to get the money. You see, many adoptions for pregnant women will involve her living expenses being paid until the baby is born, on top of a large fee that generally starts around \$10,000.

Keep in mind that if you are interested in adopting, use good, common sense. In other words, pay attention to things said, follow up on information provided, and if at any time your gut instinct says something is not quite right, listen. In fact, even if you choose an independent adoption, we still

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strongly recommend you have an adoption attorney to assist. In this case, the attorney would be responsible for doing some research, drawing up legal papers, handling the money, and so on.

Two of the most common signs associated with adoption fraud are pressure and guilt from the birth mother and/or father. In other words, if you start being pressured for more money, or the birth mother/father begins to put a guilt trip on you for money, food, clothing, and other items beyond the agreement, you should take this as a red flag. Additionally, the birth mother should always be willing to release medical information to you and answer any questions you might have. If this information is held back, you should wonder why.

Other warning signs would include the birth mother/father living in motels or being transients, the mother refusing to accept medical care, and a birth mother/father not providing you with a phone number and address where she/he can be reached. Again, most adoption processes go smoothly, connecting a birth mother with adoptive parents who will love and cherish the child. However, the more you can learn about the adoption process and meet with other parents in your same situation the more empowered you become to ensure you do not become involved with fraud, as well as a broken heart.

Karl Hinsworth is the owner and writer for the website

which a site

dedicated to researching Adoption related topics and contains all the very latest Adoption news and views. For more details please visit



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