

WE ARE JACOB+JENN

We are Jacob and Jenn Maxwell! We have been married for almost 9 years and currently live in Redlands, CA. We were introduced to each other by mutual friends at a Bible study in 2014. Shortly after that we started dating, and we got married in 2015. Jacob is a family nurse practitioner and professor at a nursing school, and Jenn is an adoption/foster care social worker. Together, we have devoted our lives and our careers to serving and empowering others. We love adventuring outdoors by hiking, camping, going on road trips, and traveling. We enjoy visiting new places, especially national parks! We enjoy spending time with our parents and siblings and have supportive and loving relationships with them. We are part of a large multicultural community composed of our friends, family, and church. We are active members in our local church and enjoy the community and opportunity to serve others. Jenn is a mentor to teen girls in our church, and Jacob leads out a men's bible study group. We have longed for many years to grow our family and share our life with our child!



We met at a bible study through mutual friends. We started out as friends but it all changed during game night.

Opposites attract! Jenn, the extroverted newcomer, found herself at a Bible study thanks to a matchmaking friend. Eager to meet new people, she bombarded the shy Jacob with questions. Introduced as the area's "most eligible bachelor," Jacob only retreated further into his shell. Despite the initial awkwardness, weekly Bible studies revealed a different side to both. A playful game night showcased Jenn's competitive spirit and Jacob's hidden humor. Soon, a date blossomed into a ten-month engagement and a joyful marriage that's lasted nearly nine years.

OUR FAVORITE THING TO DO TOGETHER

IS GO ON ROAD TRIPS TO NATIONAL PARKS, VISIT EACH OTHER'S FAMILIES AND HOMETOWNS. Their journey has been filled with experiences, both easy and challenging, that have strengthened their bond and deepened their faith. Together, they cultivate a warm and welcoming home filled with laughter, shared meals, and thriving plants. Their Christian values guide their lives, inspiring kindness, humility, and love. Now, they're ready to share this love and create a nurturing environment for a child.



"JENNIFER HAS THE BIGGEST HEART OF ANYONE I HAVE EVER MET; SHE SHOWS LOVE TO THE PEOPLE IN HER LIFE BY SERVING THEIR NEEDS." JACOB

"JACOB IS KIND, PATIENT, SMART, AND GENEROUS WITH
THE PEOPLE HE BRINGS INTO HIS LIFE. HE ALSO GETS
EXCITED ABOUT SIMPLE PLEASURES AND REALLY
APPRECIATES THE SMALL THINGS IN LIFE." JENN



about J E N N

I am Jenn. I am outgoing, nurturing, compassionate, loving, and I genuinely love people. I am an adoption/foster care social worker and have seen firsthand families that have opened their homes to babies and children that have experienced loss and have seen beauty and love to come from that. I have chosen my profession because I want to ensure that each child is brought up in a loving home. I enjoy sports, spending time outdoors with Jacob, exercising, playing guitar, laughing with family and friends, being involved in my local church, and traveling! I come from a loving Colombian-American, bilingual, blended family that is inclusive and welcomes everyone in the family and I have adopted that way of thinking as well.

A few more things about me is that I always want to be intentional about helping other people feel welcomed and like they belong in the space that I am in. I enjoy meeting new people and want to make them feel comfortable and part of a community. I think that comes from experiences in my past growing up or even when I first became an adult that others made me feel welcomed in a space and it made such a positive impact on my life. I know there is power and value in helping others feel seen and important. I think this is a reason why I am very involved in my church community and help lead a ministry in mentoring young teenage girls. I want to make sure that these girls know they are important, valued, and special. I also approach my work as a foster care social worker in the same manner but empowering the foster parents and kiddos that I work with. Lastly, I can also be such a goob. I am clumsy, talk too much at times, a horrible singer, and can be insecure for weird reasons. But, I care about people, I love my husband, and I want to be a mom more than anything in the world.

FUN FACTS

- 1. I love Disney movies.
- 2. I have a twin sister, and we look so alike!
- 3. I am a donut enthusiast! I even convinced Jacob to have donuts as our wedding cake at our wedding.
- 4. I enjoy playing my guitar at home because it relaxes me.
- 5. I am a horrible singer, but I love singing loud in my car when I am by myself.



about JACOB

I am Jacob. I am typically a quiet person but once I get to know people, I am very friendly and enjoy making jokes and having deep one-on-one conversations. I enjoy working in healthcare, as well as teaching because I enjoy helping people to grow and achieve their goals. I am passionate about being a follower of Jesus, and I find a lot of meaning in being a Christian and sharing my faith with others. My favorite place to be is outside. I love hiking, biking, and camping. I love nature and am grateful for all the opportunities for adventuring in southern California. My enjoyment of the outdoors comes from my family. I have a deep appreciation for my family and how they have shaped the person I am. I am looking forward to parenting because I love children, and I am typically found playing on the floor with them, especially whenever we spend time with our nieces/nephews or friends' children. I am able to connect with children and enjoy playing with them on their level, and more than that I am looking forward to nurturing a child to their full potential.

FUN FACTS

- 1. My favorite ice cream flavor is mint chip.
- 2. I really like Thai food and Indian food.
- 3. My favorite actor is Jimmy Stewart.
- 4. My favorite author is C. S. Lewis.
- 5. One day, I want to hike the 6 biggest mountains in Southern California.



adventures

WE LOVE TO TRAVEL

We have adventured together for nearly nine years, exploring ancestral roots in Scotland and England, and hoping to visit Colombia next. National Parks are our favorite, with road trips to camp and hike the Grand Canyon, Arches, Bryce Canyon and more in the Southwest, and we love exploring California's Pacific Coast Highway. With family in Bakersfield and Las Vegas, California is a perfect home base for our adventures.

FUN FACTS

<u>our favorite place ever:</u> Driving through the countryside of England.

<u>food you have tried:</u> Every time we go somewhere new we try their local best donut shop.

<u>Souvenirs</u>: We always collect a Christmas ornament from a place we have visited so that when we hang it up on the Christmas tree, we can remember our adventure from that year.

greatest experience: We went hiking in the rain in the Glencoe Highlands in Scotland. It was so beautiful!











family & friends

Because of where we live, there are a lot of opportunities to make friends. Our town is near to Loma Linda University, which attracts people seeking opportunities for educational and spiritual growth. We have a wide-ranging friend group that includes people from our church, work, and school communities. Our friend group contains people from many different cultures and backgrounds, and we enjoy spending time with them as much as we can.

The majority of Jacob's family lives in Bakersfield where he grew up. Values that are really important in Jacob's family include loyalty, kindness, quality time, serving others, and not taking yourself too seriously. Jacob's parents are looking forward to the day when they can support Jacob and Jenn in caring for a little one! Jacob's brother and sister-in-law live in Idaho, and they have a young daughter. Jacob's family enjoys traveling, camping, and creating memories together.

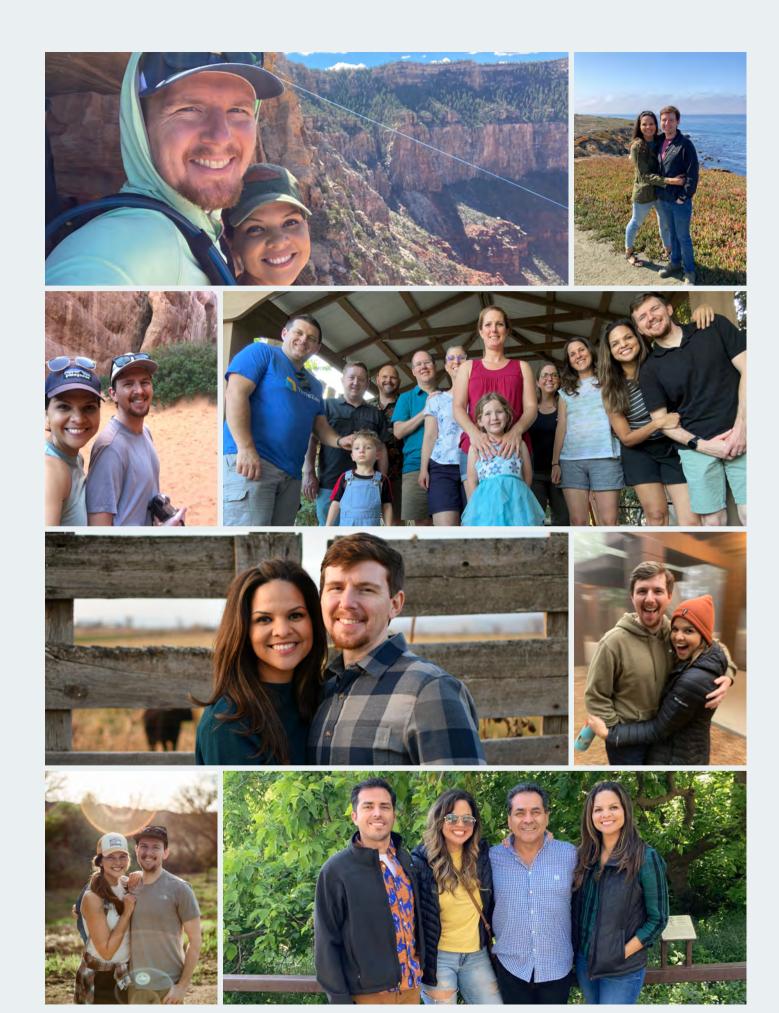


traditions

We make it a point to spend time with our families during the holiday season and we alternate every year with spending time in Bakersfield with Jacob's family or in Las Vegas with Jenn's family. These times are filled with good food, conversation, and games!

As a couple, we enjoy camping with our friends every Labor Day. We often go to Mammoth and take in the beautiful scenery. On a weekly basis, we take one day to rest, recharge, and reconnect with each other, friends, family, and God. During this time, we enjoy our church community, spend time outside, and eat delicious meals.







"We have prayed for you and know that whatever decision you make for your child, it will be the right one."

Ja Birthman. A LETTER

We know that your journey to this point has not been easy, and we understand that finding the right family for your child is difficult. We admire you for choosing a family that you know will be a good fit for your child. We want to acknowledge your courage through this process. We are a couple with lots of love to give and eager to share that love with a child! We want you to know that we will love and raise your child as if they were our own, and they will be surrounded by family, friends, and a community who will treat them in the same way. We have prayed for you and know that whatever decision you make for your child, it will be the right one.

We are eagerly waiting to share our home with a child. We promise to surround your child with love, acceptance, and protection. We promise to honor and explore your child's cultural heritage. We promise to honor your story and teach the child to understand their adoption story. We promise to help your child explore their passions and to help them grow into the person they are meant to be. We promise all this knowing that raising your child is the greatest gift we will ever receive. Thank you for getting the time to get to know us! We would be honored if you would consider us.

Jacob and Jenn