

Hands & Feet - A Modern Day Parable

inspired by Luke 24:35-48

The two expectant parents waited in the lobby and recounted what had taken place along the way of their long journey to adoption, and how their case manager made known to them that their child had finally arrived. It had been seven long years, and they could hardly believe this day was here.

Rebecca and Jose had always wanted children, but after years of trying to conceive they explored adoption and through faith and prayer began to see this as a beautiful option that fit them just right. The couple had dreamed up many scenarios of what this day would feel like. They tried to picture themselves actually holding their new son in their arms.

While they were still speaking about this, the 3-year-old boy stood in their midst, holding the hand of Mr. Roberts, the case manager. The boy had beautiful tan skin, big round brown eyes, and a head full of curly black hair -- just like his new daddy. He was dressed in a navy blue shirt, khaki cargo shorts, and the cutest pair of brown leather sandals. He actually looked like a miniature version of Jose! Mr. Roberts said to them, "I am pleased to bring you Lucas."

Upon hearing his name, Lucas' whole face broke into a huge smile. Rebecca and Jose were startled as they hadn't expected him for at least another half hour. Rebecca burst into tears of joy and thought her heart would burst from the instantaneous love that overflowed for this precious little boy. She hugged her new son and cried, "Lucas, I'm your new Mama! We are your family!" She turned to Jose and saw that he looked terrified, as if he were seeing a ghost! Then, she said to her husband, "Why are you troubled? This is real! He came from our hearts. Look at his tiny hands and feet. This is our son. Touch him and see."

The young boy was listening intently, so she showed his hands and feet to his new father. Jose carefully lifted Lucas into his arms, and wept for joy. "I am so amazed," he whispered. The three were squeezed into a family group hug when Lucas asked them, "Can I have something to eat?" They all laughed and Rebecca gave him a bag of goldfish which she had brought for a snack. Lucas took it and ate it. The new parents sat in front of their beautiful son, their beautiful gift from God and watched him eat.

Jose said, "We will never need to watch TV again. Nothing will ever be better than watching this lil guy." Then, he turned to Rebecca and said, "These are my words that I spoke to you on our wedding day, that everything written in our vows would be fulfilled: 'To love and honor each other for as long as we live, and to accept children lovingly from God.' This isn't the way we expected it to go, but Lucas has opened our minds and our hearts to understand what it means to be family. We suffered and felt like we hit a dead end when we couldn't get pregnant, but then we rose to a new way and found a different path to becoming parents. Lucas began his life in a different nation, but God opened doors and brought him to us. We are witnesses to these good things God has done.

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