

The Great Adoption



SQUAAAWK!

HI! MY NAME IS KATE, AND THIS IS MY BEST FRIEND, MACK. TODAY I'M GOING TO TELL YOU ABOUT HOW I BECAME A MISSIONARY KID. ALONG THE WAY, I'M GOING TO INTRODUCE YOU TO SOME VERY IMPORTANT PEOPLE IN MY LIFE! LET'S GET STARTED.



An Exciting Adventure

I was 8 years old when my family moved to Mexico, where my parents serve as missionaries. I remember that my parents called a family meeting. They had exciting news about an adventure we were going on together!

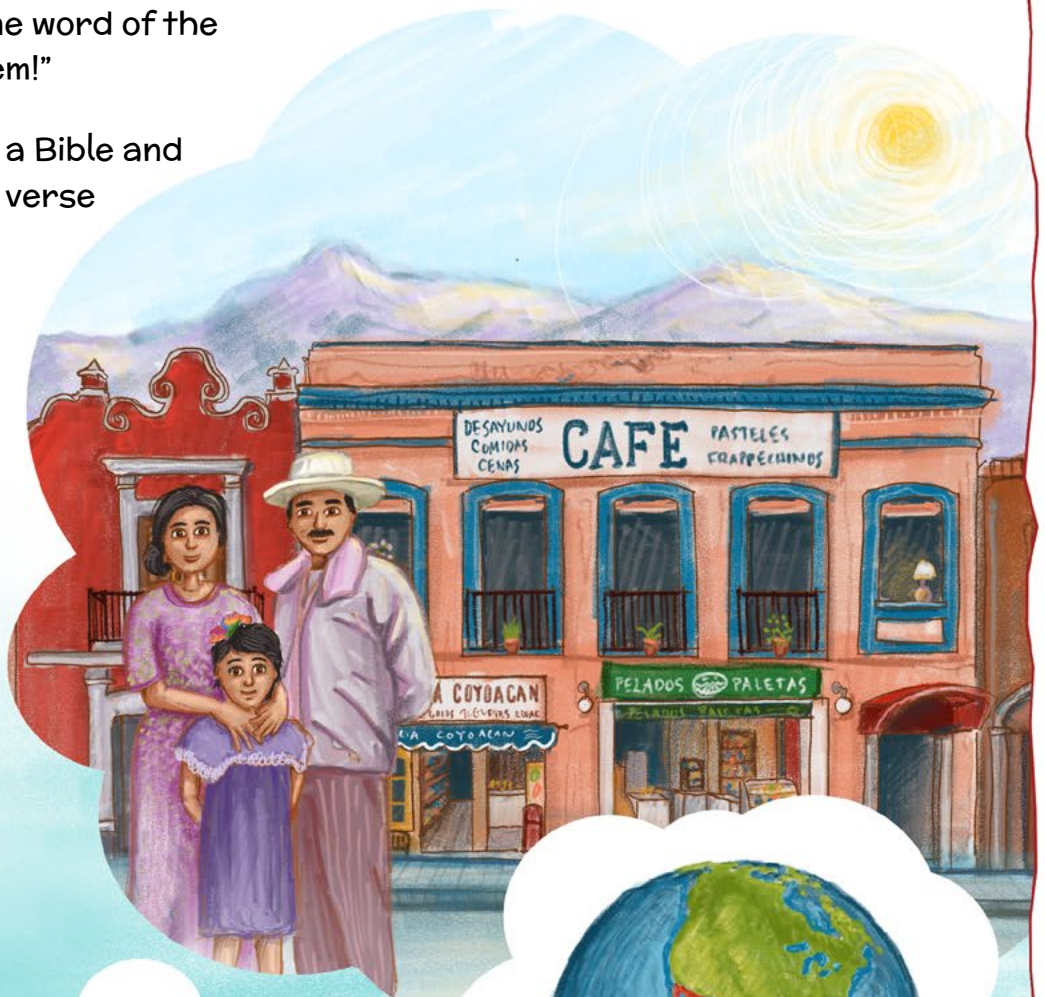
“Kate, we learned that people need to have the Bible in their own language so they can understand what God wants to tell them,” my dad said. “But so many people don’t even have one word of the Bible. We want to help them!”

That’s when he pulled out a Bible and read Matthew 28:19. That verse says, “Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit” (NIV).

Matthew 28:19 is called “The Great Commission.” It’s a commandment for everyone, but each person chooses to follow God’s command in a different way.

“We feel like God wants us to help translate the Bible for people – especially for people living in Mexico,” my mom said.

When God wants you to do something, you listen and obey. And if that meant moving to Mexico so people could learn about God, then that’s what we’d do.



Adopted Into the Family

One day, my parents sat me down and asked me an important question: Would I like to have a baby brother?

My parents explained that they'd heard of a little baby boy who needed to be adopted, and they felt like God wanted them to adopt him into our family.

That's when my mom explained that we're actually all adopted – into God's family! When we choose to believe in Jesus, he adopts us into his family. How cool is that?

My parents brought out the Bible and opened it to Ephesians 1:5, which says, "God decided in advance to adopt us

into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure" (NLT).

God wanted us to be in his family, and that's why he sent Jesus! Jesus died on the cross for the sins of everyone in the world. It was the greatest act of love the world has ever seen! And when people choose to love him back, they become part of God's family.

That's when I decided that if God has adopted me into his family, then it would be pretty cool to adopt someone into our family as well.



God With Us

Just a few days later, we brought home a little baby boy whom we named Emmanuel, or “Manny” for short.

“Emmanuel” means “God with us.” We thought it was a good name because that’s why we moved to Mexico in the first place – so that everyone can know about God being with them too! And we want them to know that in their own

language. My parents describe it like this: We all have a language that speaks to our heart. It’s the language that we think in, dream in and pray to God in.

For me, that language is English. But English isn’t the language that speaks to everyone’s heart! That’s why my parents help translate the Bible – so that everyone can understand that God is with us and that he loves us so much!

And that’s how I moved to Mexico and how I got one of the best gifts ever: my little brother, Manny.



Certificate of Adoption

This is to certify that

Name of Adopted

has been adopted into God's family on

Date

by accepting Jesus' free gift of salvation.

