

Growing Grace

Conversation Starters for Parents & Kids

Children are often better able to understand and engage in conversation while reading a book, looking at, or drawing pictures. As you explore these evolving conversations with your children, consider how each child may be at different levels of comprehension, depending on age, cognitive development and their own unique adoption story.

GENERAL ADOPTION QUESTIONS

- What does adoption mean?
- Do you have questions about your adoption? You know it's okay to ask, right?
- What is a mom/dad? What is a "birth mom/dad?" What's similar or different?
- What do you know or imagine about your birth mom/dad?
(share facts or let your child use his/her imagination)
- Can you draw a picture of what you think your birth mom/dad looks like?
- Do you ever think of your birth family? Do you wonder if your birth family is thinking about you?
- Do you ever get sad that you aren't living with your birth mom/dad or wonder why you were adopted? Do you wonder if your birth mom/dad loves you?
- Do you ever wonder if you have any brothers or sisters? Do you wonder if you will get to meet your birth mom/dad/siblings?

GROWING GRACE QUESTIONS

- Why couldn't "the girl" take care of the baby?
- What does it mean to be a grown-up? What do *YOU* want to be when you grow up?
- What is a parent's job? What kind of responsibilities do parents have?
- What is that light inside of the girl? What does the light mean? Love? Hope? Connection?
(the birth mom, adoptive family, and the child all have different kinds of light)
- What color is your light? What do you think your light means?
- How do you think the girl feels? What do you do when you feel scared/sad/worried/happy/confused?
- What was the girl searching/looking for?
- What does it mean to make a promise?
- What does it feel like to say goodbye to someone you love very much?
- How do you think the couple felt when the baby was placed in their arms? How did we (your parents) feel when you were placed in our arms?

Thank you for being part of the journey...