

Loren + Justin





Hello!

We want to start by saying

Thank You....

We deeply admire your strength and courage as you make this difficult decision. We cannot thank you enough for taking the time to learn about us. God has been stirring our hearts towards adoption for some time and as we decided to go forward, all the doors seemed to open. Your bravery is giving us the opportunity to build our family and for that, we express our deepest gratitude. We are praying for our future child already and that you are surrounded by love and support during this decision.



"For I know the plans I have for you, declared the Lord."

Jeremiah 29.11



Our Love Story



How We Met...

Justin and I met when we were in college. We were both studying mechanical engineering, which led to us sharing a class one summer. It just so happened that I wore an old volleyball t-shirt with my last name on the back to class one day. It was through that shirt that Justin realized that we had a lot of friends in common. It was actually our mutual friends who first got us talking. Once we started talking, we realized we had so much in common and the rest was history. A year and a half later we got engaged!

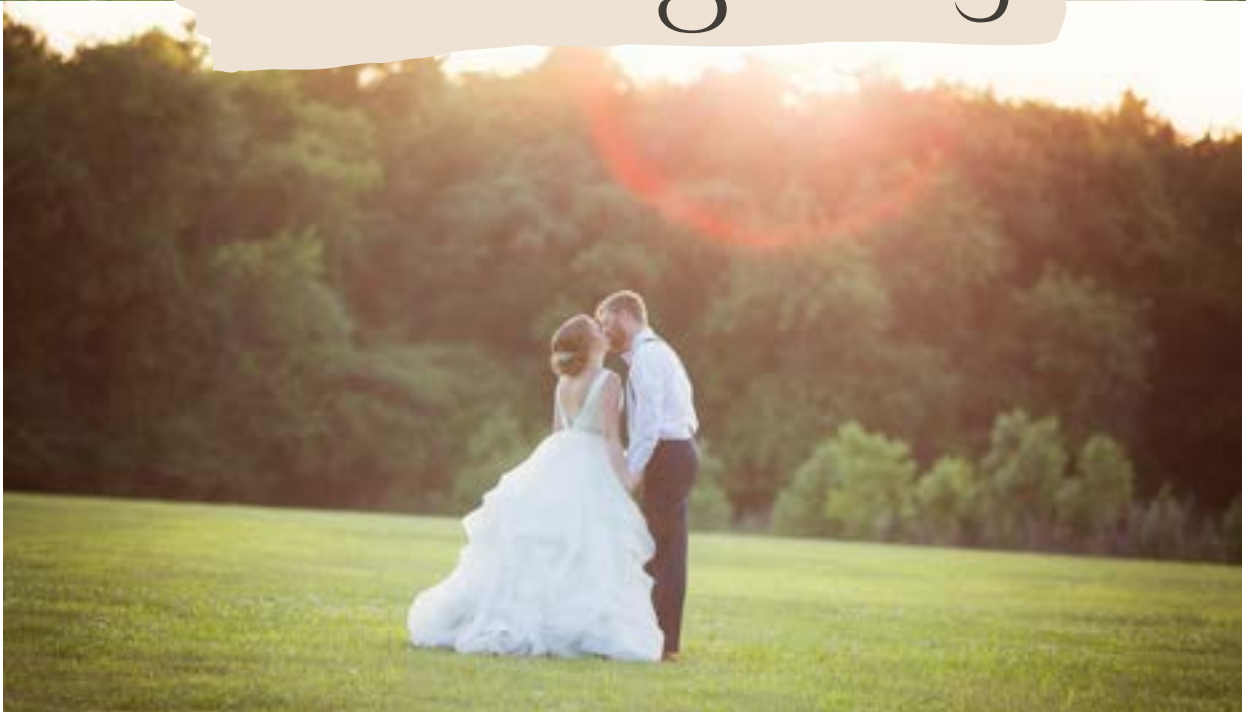


How He Proposed...

We got engaged after dating for a year and a half. We had always planned a “timeline” of when we were thinking about getting engaged and married, but the engagement still came as a big surprise! We had a couple's photo shoot booked and while I was busy planning for the session, Justin was busy working with the photographer on his proposal! It was perfect and we are so glad to have the photographs to remember the moment!



Wedding Day



Our wedding day is one that friends and family are still talking about! We had an amazing wedding and were surrounded by over 250 of our friends and family. One of our favorite things about our venue was a little gate behind an arbor with beautiful vines that held locks from previous weddings that occurred at the venue. We were able to put our lock on the gate and come back a year later to see that it was still there! We enjoyed a private first-look where we were able to share sweet letters to each other before the ceremony. For our ceremony, Loren's grandfather was our officiant which made the ceremony even sweeter and more personal. After the ceremony, we had a big celebration! We ate lots of BBQ and the dance floor was full all night. Our wedding is a day that we will love and cherish forever. It was so intimate and special and couldn't have been more perfect. We have been happily married for almost four years now!

Meet Loren

I would say that I'm an outgoing person who loves people! I highly value my relationships with people and desire to make people feel loved. I have a positive outlook on life and like to find joy in all the simplest things!

Growing up, I was always surrounded by lots of family and love. Most of my family have always lived close to each other, so we were always seeing each other for birthdays, holidays, or just for fun. I am the oldest of five siblings - two brothers and two sisters. I have very loving grandparents that came to every volleyball/softball game or school function. I am very close to my mom and have weekly phone calls with her. I make time to visit my friends often. We can typically be found on a Saturday morning at a local coffee shop catching up or at each other's houses for dinner and games.

I earned a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering and went to work for NASA in their welding group. I now work as a contracts manager from home for another great company, which will give me lots of flexibility when we bring home a baby!



My Favorites...

Food: Seafood + pasta

Dessert: Anything + everything! I have a sweet tooth!

Hobbies: Soap making, gardening, milking our goats, making sourdough bread

TV Show: The Office, Friends

Vacation: The mountains! We go to Blue Ridge every year!

Games: All games! Board games, card games, you name it!



Through Justin's Eyes...



"Loren is caring, kind, patient, and loving. She listens well, cares for me, and encourages me in my endeavors. She relishes quality time and prioritizes that in our marriage and with our family and friends. She is humble and puts others' needs before herself. Her presence in my life and those around her is a reflection of Christ.

She has always expressed how much she wanted to be a mother one day, and I have always known our children would have the best mother. I know she will love our children wholeheartedly and be so patient with them as they grow and learn. She will care for and nurture them while tending to their every need. Loren's personality traits make her a great wife and future mother and I cannot wait to raise a family together."



Meet Justin

I think of myself as a “people person.” I am someone who cares about those around me and I strive to be a good friend and husband in every situation. I stick to my commitments and strive for honesty in all my interactions. Growing up, I was cared for well by my family and made lots of friends. My childhood memories are filled with good times as we ran throughout the neighborhood and played in the woods. My parents taught me how to think for myself and to be independent and through that, we realized my interests and skills were well suited for engineering.

I went on to get a degree in Mechanical Engineering and now work in that field full time. I value family time over my career and because of that I chose an employer who supports that which is great for building a family!



My Favorites...

Food: Chicken + Dumplings

Dessert: Pie + Ice Cream

Hobbies: Gardening

TV Show: The Office

Vacation: The mountains

Sport: Football

Games: Cornhole



Through Loren's Eyes...



"Justin was meant to be a dad. He is kind and funny. He is the guy that people call when they need help. Family means everything to him. He is always hanging out with one of his siblings or on the phone with his parents. He takes exceptional care of me by listening to me and lifting me up. I can say with confidence that Justin will do everything in his power to make sure that our child has a great life. He will be dependable, loving, and patient. He will provide them with opportunities to learn, grow, and be adventurous. He will support them in all of their dreams and interests."

What We Love About Loren!



"I have been blessed throughout the years to have Loren as a study partner, roommate, workout partner and best friend. By knowing Loren in all those roles, I have had the honor to see a hardworking woman in every aspect of life. She is intentional in conversation and makes me feel understood. Loren loves hard, leads graciously, and listens patiently. All of the traits of Loren's character is that of a great woman and mother. I can't wait to see her lead her family as a mom!"

-Kayle, Friend



"Loren is active, hands on, and patient. These qualities among many others will make her a wonderful mom. She works from home, which will allow her to always be home with the baby. She will be able to teach them many valuable things in life. She also likes to travel, camp, and hike which will provide many opportunities for a child to learn and be adventurous. I cannot wait to see her mama heart in action."

-Julie, Mom

What We Love About Justin!



"Justin is a hardworking, determined man who is always taking on new projects and new opportunities to learn. He has a fun personality that is very friendly, and he's always working to serve and support the people around him. He loves the Lord and shows it in his life, and is not afraid to ask for help when needed. Justin would offer a very loving and supportive home for any child. He is very compassionate and loving with a heart for Christ and a desire to support those in his life. The child he would have would receive every opportunity to grow, learn, be mentored/parented, and have a fun and happy life."

-Michael, Friend

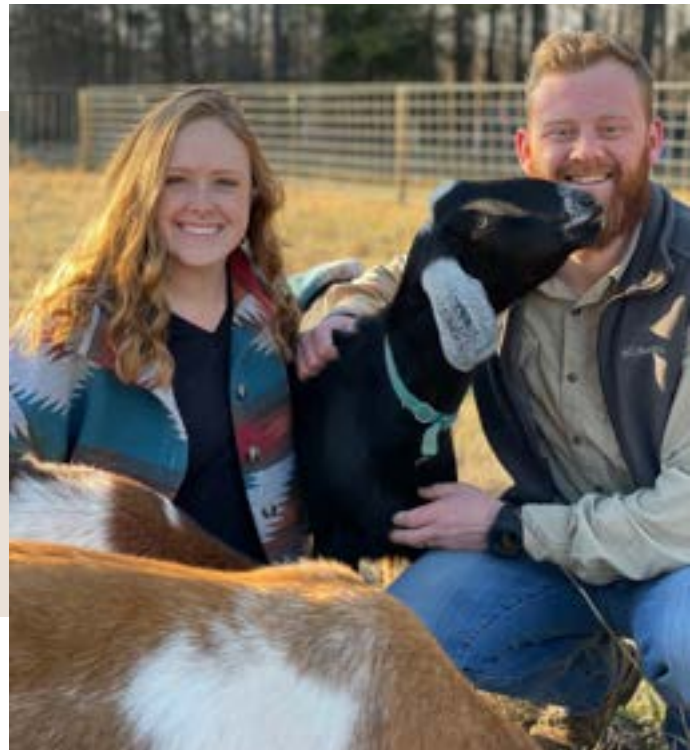


"As a younger brother, I often view Justin as an additional father figure. Through his words of encouragement and wisdom bestowed upon me throughout my life, Justin has shown an abundance of love and proven beyond capable to raise a child of his own. I say with confidence that Justin as a father will be patient, wise, and kind to his child just as he provided the same love and support for me and many others."

-Ethan, Brother



Hobbies We Enjoy...



We enjoy taking care of our farm – we have goats, chickens, and pigs, as well as gardening. We live on a beautiful property that we hike on and spend a lot of time outside. We also enjoy watching shows, reading, and sharing time together. We like to get to know our community and during the summer we love to attend the local farmers market. Hosting our friends and family for a warm meal, games, and holidays is something that we also love to do often.





Meet the Families

Loren's Family

I am so lucky to live very close to my family as we are very tight-knit. My parents are divorced, which brought two amazing step-parents into my life! In total, I have four siblings - two brothers and two sisters. We actually live on the same property as my dad, step-mother, and my sisters, which means we get to see each other a lot. We also visit my mother, step-father, and youngest brother at least once a month. Most of my extended family all live really close as well. We all get together every year during the holidays.



"Families are like branches on a tree. We grow in different directions, yet our roots remain as one." ~ Anonymous

Justin's Family

I am the oldest of three siblings. I have one sister and one brother, both of which I am very close to. My parents are recently retired, live on the lake and are very loving and supporting of us. They moved closer to us upon retirement so that we could spend more time together. We talk almost every day and visit with them often. My mom is an excellent cook and enjoys hosting us or bringing food to any get together. My dad is a man of many talents, a real handy man who I often call for help and advice.



Memories and Traditions



Every year we also go on a family vacation in Blue Ridge with the family. Our Blue Ridge trip is always something that we look forward to. We get to enjoy the view of the mountains while also enjoying staying right on the lake!

We typically do a Friendsgiving every year with our small group from church. This is always a sweet time where lots of food is eaten and laughs are had.

Every year we have a gingerbread challenge with Loren's little sisters. We will typically cook a nice dinner and get together with Loren's dad, step-mom, sisters, as well as her brother and his wife.

“Time with the ones you love is time well spent”



Christmas is by far the biggest holiday tradition our families have. We focus on gathering together and exchanging gifts, but there is a mutual understanding that the important thing is just being together! It is seen as a homecoming for some because of their distance and we celebrate their presence! Recently with our newly built home, we have hosted family in our home and look forward to doing this more in the future as we welcome a child into our lives.





"Your home should tell the story of who you are and be a collection of what you love."



Our Home + Community

We recently built our house in a quiet community nestled on the sweetest farm in northern Alabama. We built a four bedroom, four bathroom house with the hope to expand our family. In total, our house is 3,200 sq. feet. We have a large kitchen where everyone gathers when we host. We have a large “bonus” room upstairs that we plan to use as a homeschool/playroom, but our favorite part of our home is the four acres that we live on. We spend lots of time outside in our garden or hanging out with our farm animals (we have goats, chickens, and pigs). We also have the prettiest hiking trails, creek, and waterfall!





We are fortunate to live next door to our family who has a pool to swim in and a pond to catch fish in. Our small town and the towns around us have the cutest parks with tennis courts, walking trails, playground, creeks, and so much more!

We belong to and are very involved in our local church. Justin and I have both served on the Students' team at church and continue to serve on the coffee team. Our church community is very loving and kind. It focuses a lot on building relationships within the church community, but also within our small town. We are also a part of a small group that meets every week. We are very thankful for our small group and the friendships that we have made within it!



Our Friends...

We have an amazing group of friends that are very supportive of us. We couldn't have a more ideal support system. Our future child will be surrounded by lots of love and people who care about them!



Fun Facts About Us!



* Before working from home, Loren worked for NASA in their welding group.

* Justin is very musically talented. He can play the piano, trombone, and the ukulele.



* We own a hobby farm with goats, chickens, and pigs.

* We haven't bought bread in almost a year! Loren has been baking sourdough bread and treats for a whole year.



* Justin and his brother completely rebuilt their grandfather's boat and enjoy taking it out to go fishing.

The Future



Faith

Our faith is very important to us. We hope to lead by example by providing a home where we are open about our faith with our children. We plan to read The Bible together in our home and pray with our children frequently. We want to foster an environment where children feel they can talk to us about struggles they have and where we can celebrate God's faithfulness in our lives together.

Education

We currently plan to homeschool our children, but understand that each child may have different needs/talents that require our family to consider public or private school alternatives. We have many families in our church that choose to homeschool their children and we have witnessed great benefits from that but will ultimately choose the route that is best for our child!

We Promise...

We promise to love you unconditionally and guide you in life from childhood to adulthood.

We promise to guide you in your faith and to be here when times are hard.

We promise to devote ourselves to you and help develop your unique talents and interests.

We promise to provide opportunities for education, adventure, creativity, and wonder.

We promise to teach you to become a kind, honest, generous, self-respecting, independent, and courageous person.

We promise to always be here when you need us.

Love,
Loren + Justin



Thank you
and God
bless you!

