

Life Week 2026 Devotion - Day 4

We Are All Adopted by Lowell Highby



"We are all adopted." What do you think about that statement? Do you agree?

You might be thinking, "No. I was not adopted. I was born into and raised by my birth family." While that obviously may be true, biologically speaking, another fact is just as true of you if you are a Christian: You were adopted.

Let's look at what the Word says in Galatians 4: "God sent forth his Son ... so we might receive adoption as sons." As faith is a gift, so is your adoption into God's family. And just as when a child is adopted into a family, that child is not "almost" like a son or daughter but is in reality a full-fledged son or daughter—with all the rights of any son or daughter.

The adoption of a child, whether that child is a baby or a toddler or a teenager, is a beautiful thing. But it is also something that comes from brokenness and pain. After all, if there were no broken homes, or abusive or addicted parents, or parents who have died—for whatever reason—there would be no need for adoption.

But there is a need. In fact, there is a great need! Right now, in the United States alone, there are approximately 122,000 children awaiting adoption. Many of these children are in the foster care system. While adoption is meant to give a child a Forever Family, foster care is often intended as a temporary solution to a family problem. Often the goal in foster care is to reunite families—and praise God when that turns out to be the best solution. The truth is, though, that in many cases adoption is the better plan.

Pray for more people to come forward to foster children. Pray for the adoption process to be thorough but manageable—and affordable. Pray that children of all ages are able to find a Forever Family. Pray that these children will come to know better their Savior, Jesus. When the time comes, be open to the possibility of adoption or foster care in your life. If adoption or foster care doesn't work for you, find out how you or your church or community can help those families who do adopt or provide foster care. (You can learn more about adoption through resources available at lutheransforlife.org/life-issues/adoption.)

Rev. Dr. Scott Sailer once wrote, "Adoption fits beautifully with our theology. Adopting is grace. It is a metaphor for salvation ... (Galatians 4:4-5). Adoption is Christian witness. Orphans are our neighbors ... 'Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their afflictions, and to keep oneself unstained from the world'" (James 1:27).

Remember, you are adopted—and blessed!

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved" (Ephesians 1:3-6).



Lowell Highby, Director of Communications, joined the staff of Lutherans For Life in January of 1998. Before accepting this position, he served as general manager of KNGN Good News Radio in McCook, Nebraska, from 1992 through 1997. Prior to 1992, Lowell worked in various capacities at radio stations in Marshall, Minnesota; Antigo, Wisconsin; and Redwood Falls, Minnesota, having received his broadcast training at Brown Institute of Broadcasting in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He has been active in local congregations, serving as Sunday school and VBS teacher, LYF advisor, Lifelight group leader, local LLL president, and choir member. In addition, he has held various church council positions (board of education, president, secretary, and adult and youth discipleship), was a member of the Clemons Lutheran School Board, and was past president and secretary of the McCook Sertoma Club. He is currently the treasurer for the Lamberton Lions Club, and, as of March 2019, he serves on the board of directors for Choices Pregnancy Center in Redwood Falls, Minnesota. He is a volunteer with Redwood County Restorative Justice. Lowell has also been involved in community theater and local historical societies in Walnut Grove, Minnesota, and Nevada, Iowa, and is currently on the committee for the Laura Ingalls Wilder Pageant in Walnut Grove. Until Russia closed down international adoptions in 2012, he had been involved for several years with Camp Hope, which worked to find adoptive homes for older Russian orphans. Lowell has four children (Alex, Kierra, Callie, Eva) and resides in his hometown of Lamberton, Minnesota. The Highbys are members of St. John Lutheran Church.