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Our Dear Child

Letters to your baby on the way

Denise & Timothy George

CHRISTIAN FOCUS

9781845501419 - Dear Child.indd 3

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Dedication: For Christian Timothy George, our firstborn

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9781845501419 - Dear Child.indd 6

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Introduction

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One early September morning, our first child was born. We had waited a long time for our baby. We discovered, during the nine more months we waited for him, that pregnancy is not only a physical event for the mom, but also an emotional and spiritual event for both the mom and dad. We shared many golden moments during those long months of pregnancy, as we anticipated his birth.

From the early days of pregnancy, we decided to record our thoughts as a future mother and father – our hopes, prayers and dreams – so that one day our child, a son as he turned out to be, would know the events which led up to his birth. We wrote many personal letters to our unborn baby, and, on occasion, we shared them with close friends.

We had no plans to make them public/ to share them with a wider audience until a friend suggested that we consider publication.

"I know it will be hard to expose and share your most tender, private thoughts," he told us, "but don't you think the world needs a little tenderness?" That's how *Our Dear Child* came to be.

Later, we journeyed again into pregnancy and expectation when we waited with great anticipation for the arrival of our unborn daughter. That experience delivered the same excitement, golden moments, hopes, prayers and dreams. Each child – unique, special, individual, a gift from God – a miracle.

We pray that you will enjoy these letters, whether you are expecting a child or grandchild, rejoicing in the anticipated

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Our Dear Child * * * * *

birth of a friend's baby, or just unabashedly in love with babies in general.

Denise and Timothy George Birmingham, Alabama, 2006



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Prelude

Letters to an unborn child

Dear Child,

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Up in the attic, tied with pale blue ribbons, are 400 letters written to us by our loving Grandmother Williams. She wrote more than one letter a week for over seven years while we were students in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Through these "love notes", my grandmother reminded us that we were still a very important part of the family even though we lived a thousand miles away. These letters will always be precious to us, as they communicate a part of our family history that, unless recorded, would be lost from memory over the years.

Why do we write these letters to you, our unborn child? Because through these "love notes" you will learn of the days before your birth. These are a part of your family history, our family history, details that will, no doubt, fade from our thoughts over the years.

As you read these pages one day in the future, you will know of our hoping, our waiting, and our planning for you before you "officially" entered our world. You will learn of the many things we hold dear: our faith, our family, our beliefs, our values.

And, little one, we pray that one day, perhaps in your own attic, you will hold within pale blue ribbons these letters, a recorded reminder of our love for you – a very important part of our family.

Love, Mom and Dad

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9781845501419 - Dear Child.indd 9

05/04/2006 16:22:51