

To my little girl, Kalena Nicole,

Today is April 26, 2009, just 3 days until you turn 9 months old. It seems just like yesterday, on that chilly day in November 2007 when mommy told me that we were going to have you. We remember anticipating your arrival with much joy. We loved preparing your room, buying cute little dresses and choosing your name. Kalena is a version of your mommys' name and means little flower.

We thank God every day that he blessed us by allowing you to be born. We prayed many years for your arrival, and now tonight, your mommy and I are dedicating you to Jesus. We want you to know that even though Jesus gave you to us, that we are and have given you back to him.

As you grow up Kalena, there are a few things that your mommy and I desire for your life. We desire that you hear the voice of God clearly. The world that we live in is so loud and everything pulls at our attention. It is so important for you to become familiar with the voice of God. So we promise you that we are going to do everything that we can as your parents to give you opportunities to hear the voice of Jesus. We will teach you God's word; we will show you how to talk to Jesus and we will raise you in a church environment that loves Jesus and worships him in the beauty of Holiness.

We want you to find God's purpose in your life. We promise you that we won't make you be a pastor or acquire old, musty smelling books like daddy or teach kids club and sell Pampered Chef like mommy! While you may never do those things, we want you to know they aren't near as important as it is to find God's will for your life. God already has a purpose for your life and we promise you that we will do our best to help you find His will whatever that may be.

We want you to fall in love with Jesus. He is the best thing that ever happened to mommy and daddy. He has done an amazing work in our lives and we promise you that he can do the same for you. We don't want you to make the same mistakes as we have, so we encourage you to give your life over to Jesus while you are young. You will never be sorry that you did Kalena.

Daddy and mommy want you to know that we love you dearly. And while we treasure your giggles, and cherish your smiles, we want you to know the most important thing you could ever do to make us happy, would be to follow Jesus.

All my love,

Daddy