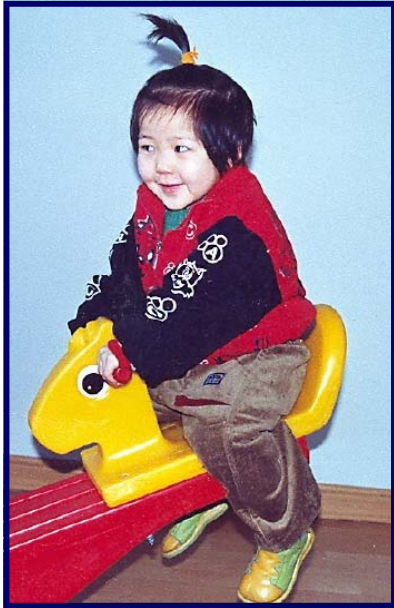


AHH Special Needs Program

Donald and Carolyn Neal have adopted two children from China already and are in the process of adopting their third. The Neals are adopting Tasia Faith FanSong, a girl living in an orphanage in Harbin, Heilongjiang, China. The Neals hope to travel by Tasia's sixth birthday in June 2006. Her special need is a hand deformity and heart murmur. Here is their story.

Testimony



Our family has been on many journeys of faith in life. Twice, a journey took us to China to adopt a beautiful, healthy one-year-old baby girl and an almost 20-month-old beautiful, lively toddler. Our daughters adopted in China are now 6 and 4 years old. Being a parent is such a blessing from God, and we are so grateful for where God has led our family, down the road of faith, to our children. Early in the year of 2005, I (Carolyn) felt a calling from God to adopt another child. Knowing that there were many obstacles to overcome, I tried to push the thought away. The thought kept returning though, over and over. I prayed to God that if another adoption was not of His will, to please take it from my mind. Not only did the thought stay with me, growing stronger and stronger, I soon accepted we did have another child somewhere, waiting for our family to begin the journey to bring him or her home.

One day, after researching many adoption agencies' waiting children lists, I made the call to A Helping Hand Adoption Agency. This was the agency we had used for our previous adoptions. We were very pleased with AHH, comfortable with them, and knew we could trust them to help us bring another child home to us. I soon called AHH asking them about their waiting children program. I spoke with Grace, the AHH Special Needs coordinator, and she let me know when the next list of waiting children would arrive. I waited for a few months, ready to begin our new journey.

When the list arrived there were many beautiful children, with various special needs. We felt drawn to a particular child, but she had been placed on hold already. Thinking we would wait until the next list to find our child, we overcame our disappointment and settled in for the seemingly long wait for the next arrival of the Special Delivery list. However, another beautiful little 5-year-old girl on the current list who had been placed on hold by a family became available again. We put that little girl on hold, prayed about her, researched her special need and made the decision that we would pursue adopting her.

She is our daughter, even though we have never met in person yet. This little girl, institutionalized since she was one month old, with a hand deformity and heart murmur, has waited a long time for a family. We feel so honored and humbled to be able to adopt this child, make her a member of our family, and love her forever.

What lays in the future for this child, as far as surgeries, further medical problems with her heart or other problems, we don't yet know. But we do know we have Jesus to trust in; He who is with us in another journey of faith to our soon-to-be daughter, Tasia FAITH FanSong Neal.



Carolyn and Gary Neal and family.

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