



## Episode 000—An Introduction

Welcome! You're listening to Adopted into Allyship, a podcast about loving wholeheartedly and fighting for connection. I'm Jamie K Corbin and this is episode zero, an introduction.

I have a confession to make. Up until recently, the idea of adoption made me sick. I remember several years ago sitting in the airport with others in my church community, all of us waiting for the arrival of our dear friend and her newly adopted children. The excited energy radiating off the crowd was enough to push my anxiety into full-fledged nausea and I was grateful for my friend who noticed and asked, "Are you okay?" I blinked back tears, swallowed the unexpected panic I could feel rising up in me, took a slow breath, and silently shook my head no. She smiled with encouragement and as much understanding as she could, knowing that as an adoptee, my feelings around adoption were messy and complicated.

\*\*\*

Later I confronted God about why I struggled so hard with the idea of adoption. Hadn't I been blessed with my own family, whom I love like crazy, because of adoption? Wasn't I a mother who should be happy for my friends who were going to get to experience the blessings of becoming parents through adoption? His response was that he would continue to put adoption in front of me until I figured it out, and He wasn't joking. For the next season, it seemed like everywhere I turned adoption was there in some way, shape, or form.

At the same time that God was surrounding me with adoption, racial tensions were becoming more and more visible to the general public and our two party political system was creating a culture of toxic divisiveness to which no community was immune. I was learning at a rapid rate about the demands and barriers to connection, community, and allyship – all of which directly impacts my bi-racial, multicultural family every single day.

But it wasn't until about a year ago, after losing a community we had been a part of for over ten years that I really started to "figure it out". Grieving and angry, I was terrified at how close bitterness danced around my heart on a regular basis, and I was desperate for a Holy kind of redemption for the brokenness within and around me. I spent the last year reading, thinking, praying, and healing. And this podcast is a manifestation of the grace I found in those efforts, a following through on what I feel like I am being asked to give back to the world, a vulnerable offering of love in the form of a message that may be difficult to hear.

\*\*\*

Adoption and allyship are two sides of the same coin – you can't have one without the other, and they are both fundamental to living into the familial nature of the gospel.

So here I am, writing and recording to share my personal stories of adoption and allyship with the hope to encourage, equip, and educate others who are on similar journeys, for the sake of God's glory.

Full transparency: I don't speak for other adoptees, transracial or not, and I certainly don't know everything there is to know about allyship. I'm also not a professional counselor. Adoption and allyship are complex, nuanced experiences, y'all and there is no manual with one right answer on how to do it perfectly. I am just one transracial Latina adoptee, who grew up and became the only non-Black member of her own family, and I know that creating this podcast, however imperfect, is my next right step in being the change I want to see in the world.

\*\*\*

One last thing before I close out this introduction episode – I would love to hear from you. If there are topics within adoption or allyship you're curious about exploring together, please let me know. I'm pretty easy to find on social media as [jamielcorbin](#), but you can always email me at [AdoptedIntoAllyship@jamielcorbin.com](mailto:AdoptedIntoAllyship@jamielcorbin.com)

\*\*\*

I'm looking forward to starting this new adventure with you in the New Year, but until then, please know that I am praying for all of us to find a supernatural amount of hope, peace, joy and love in the weeks to come. May the end of 2021 provide you opportunities to practice gratitude and rest, and may you experience the season loving wholeheartedly and fighting for connection.