

UP ORIGINAL SERIES "BRINGING UP BATES" FAMILY PROFILES

PARENTS GIL AND KELLY JO BATES



27 YEARS OF MARRIAGE AND 19 KIDS LATER, THE COUPLE WHO WAS INITIALLY UNSURE IF THEY'D HAVE ANY KIDS AT ALL, NOW CONSIDER CHILDREN THE GREATEST BLESSING. GIL (49) OWNS A TREE-CUTTING SERVICE – A DANGEROUS OCCUPATION, BUT ONE THAT PAYS WELL AND ALLOWS THE DEVOTED FATHER MORE TIME WITH HIS EVER-EXPANDING FAMILY. KELLY JO (47) HAS THE CHALLENGING JOB OF MANAGING THE BATES HOUSEHOLD DAY-TO-DAY AND HOMESCHOOLS THE CHILDREN. WHILE THE HAPPY COUPLE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE ANOTHER BABY OF THEIR OWN, THEY'RE JUST AS CONTENT TO STEP INTO A NEW ROLE AS FIRST-TIME GRANDPARENTS. THREE YEARS AGO, THE FAMILY STARTED THEIR OWN CHURCH WHERE GIL PREACHES EVERY SUNDAY. THE BATES FAMILY LIVES OUTSIDE OF KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, IN THE SMALL, RURAL TOWN OF LAKE CITY.

In Season 1 of "Bringing Up Bates": The Bates kids are growing up, moving out and getting married! Gil and Kelly Jo adjust to having three fewer kids in the house, which means the middle kids get new roles and more responsibility. Gil and Kelly become first-time grandparents and celebrate the birth of their first grandbaby – Zach's son, Bradley. Will they start to go soft on their younger children now that they are grandparents? Plus, how will Gil and Kelly react to the new set of rules each of the married kids choose to live by now that they're out on their own? While life is good for the Bates, living isn't always easy as they manage and stretch every dollar to provide financially for their super-sized family on Gil's tree-cutting salary. The couple's hearts break as they learn more about their second daughter Erin's struggles to have children. The rules of courtship are discussed as they hope and prepare for first daughter Michael's engagement, and provide a purity ring to fifth daughter Carlin, who has come of age. They set out with the family on a trip to visit Gil's parents for Thanksgiving, followed by Florida to visit third daughter Alyssa, a newlywed who is pregnant. A year of transition for the family, another milestone is reached as the Bates celebrate Gil's 50th birthday.

THE OLDEST NINE KIDS



ZACH BATES & WIFE WHITNEY PERKINS | ONLINE AT ZACHANDWHITNEY.BLOGSPOT.COM

Zach (25) married Whitney Perkins in December 2013. The couple welcomed their first child, a baby boy named Bradley Gilvin Bates, on October 29th, 2014. Currently, Zach serves as an Anderson County commissioner and is also employed with the Anderson County Sheriff's Dept. In 2010, Zach was the youngest person in the family's home county of Anderson ever elected as county commissioner-elect. In January 2014, Zach announced his run for mayor with only two short months to campaign. While Zach lost the race, he finished with 47% of the votes. Zach's wife Whitney completed her studies in medical billing and coding, and is now enjoying being a stay-athome mom. The couple resides in Clinton, TN, just a few miles from his parents, Gil and Kelly Jo.

In Season 1 of "Bringing Up Bates": Zach and Whitney prepare Bradley's nursery; attend the baby shower held in their honor; share the birth of their son; and adjust to being first-time parents to the first Bates grand-baby, Bradley.



MICHAEL BATES & BRANDON KEILEN (IN A COURTSHIP)

Michael (24, nicknamed "Michaella") is Gil & Kelly Jo's first-born daughter. She is in a courtship with Brandon Keilen. Michael is employed full-time as a nanny. She completed her EMT training and is currently working on completing her Associate's degree through Roane State College. Brandon graduated from college in November 2014, earning his 4-year degree. Currently, Brandon is working with IBLP ministries. Michael could move to Chicago if she marries Brandon.

In Season 1 of "Bringing Up Bates": Michael's role in the Bates' family starts to change as she readies for life with Brandon. As Brandon graduates from college, Michael plans a surprise trip to see him in Texas. In hopes of getting to know Michael's family better, Brandon plans an extended visit and will stay at the Bates' house. The rules of courtship are discussed and Michael starts to plan her wedding before Brandon even proposes. Brandon spends Thanksgiving with his possible Grande-sized family and unbeknownst to Michael, Brandon shops for an engagement ring that fits both Michael's finger and his modest budget. Will Brandon propose?



ERIN & HUSBAND CHAD PAINE I ONLINE AT WWWCHADSPERSPECTIVE.BLOGSPOT.COM

As seen on "19 Kids and Counting," Erin (23) married Chad Paine on November 2, 2013. The newlyweds live in Clinton, TN, close to the rest of the Bates family. Chad is the office manager for Noble Metals, Inc. In May 2014, Erin graduated with honors and earned a B.A. in music ministry from The Crown College of the Bible. She has recorded two CDs and teaches piano lessons full-time. Erin loves hair and make-up too. Check out her not-to-be-missed hair tutorial videos: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IEz1nozjCOk</u>!

In Season 1 of "Bringing Up Bates": Erin adjusts to married life and notices just how different things really are now that she's moved out of her parent's house. Although Chad and Erin are ready to start a family of their own, this sweet couple continue to face challenges, including the pain and loss of a miscarriage. As the pair attempt to move forward, the first Bates grandchild, Bradley, is born. Soon after, Erin's younger sister Alyssa and her husband, John Webster, share their own unexpected "happy – but hard to hear" news. Plus, their nephew Bradley is born on what was also supposed to have been Erin's due date. Erin and Chad visit an OBGYN and learn why she has not been able to have a child. Will this news help them find a solution and start their own family?



LAWSON I ONLINE AT LAWSONBATES.COM AND ON INSTAGRAM @LAWBATES

Lawson (22) is an aspiring country music artist. His first record, *Freedom Sure Ain't Free*, was recorded in Nashville and contained two original songs. Currently, the country-music hopeful is in the studio working with producer Andy Leftwich (fiddle player for country music legend Ricky Skaggs) and a vocal coach. Through his music, Lawson hopes to generate global awareness for needs in third world countries. In addition to his love for music, horses and storytelling, Lawson owns his own lawn mowing business. Lawson lives at home with his parents and siblings, and keeps everyone laughing.

In Season 1 of "Bringing Up Bates": Hoping to further his music career, Lawson heads to Nashville and doors start to open when he meets with a record label executive, a vocal coach and gets an opportunity to sing the national anthem at a men's basketball game for The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. While Lawson's music career is showing signs of life, he has other work to do juggling his landscaping business and working for his father's tree-cutting business.



NATHAN

Nathan (21) currently attends Crown College of the Bible. He enjoys preaching and speaking in churches and youth groups around the country. Nathan works full-time with the family tree-cutting business and also does volunteer work with the fire department and EMS. Nathan is the family "horse whisperer" and everyone's best friend.

In Season 1 of "Bringing Up Bates": Nathan follows in his father's footsteps as he takes on a larger role in the family business and works toward becoming a preacher. Nathan's life is set in motion; he just needs a wife to share it with.



ALYSSA & HUSBAND JOHN WEBSTER I ON INSTAGRAM @WEBSTER4EVER

Alyssa (20) married John Webster in May 2014 and moved to Clermont, Florida where her husband's family lives. Alyssa's father-in-law is congressman, Daniel Webster and her husband John works for his family's air conditioning business. **John and Alyssa are expecting their first baby in April 2015.** Alyssa uses her organizational skills to help manage the family tree business and manage the taxes.

In Season 1 of "Bringing Up Bates": Alyssa adjusts to married life and also living nearly 700-miles away from her family but has developed new family ties with her in-laws. The couple wastes no time starting a family and announces they're expecting their first child in the spring of 2015. Alyssa foregoes a career in order to be a full-time stay-at-home mom and while nothing is certain, she reveals that she could be quite happy having 8-10 kids. A pregnant Alyssa gets quality time with her family when Gil, Kelly and the kids take a road trip to see the expectant mom.



TORI

Tori (18) is enrolled in college and works part-time as a nanny. Tori is also a talented musician and enjoys playing the violin to uplift others through community outreach.

In Season 1 of "Bringing Up Bates": Now that many of her older siblings have moved out, Tori gets more responsibility – this means more cooking, cleaning and looking after the younger kids. She also gets her driver's license and starts to think about potential suitors for courtship.



TRACE

Trace (17) is currently working towards completing high school and is employed with the family treecutting business. He is the family's biggest competitor and loves football, basketball, skiing, horseback riding, Ping-Pong and other sports. Since several of his older siblings have now moved out, Trace is now the designated family "errand runner."

In Season 1 of "Bringing Up Bates": Trace takes on a bigger role in the family by running errands, helping out with the younger kids, doing more chores and working more hours in the family business. He gives the family a huge scare when he's involved in a serious automobile accident that sends him over a cliff, wrecking one of the family's vehicles.



CARLIN

Carlin (16) is a junior in high school. She plays both the piano and violin, and is the lead singer for the family when they travel to churches. The spirited 16-year-old leads the children's ministry hour at church on Sundays and assists with several other children ministry programs throughout the year. Carlin loves to cook, read her Bible and encourage others.

In Season 1 of "Bringing Up Bates": Carlin grows up! Like some of her other siblings, she too has taken on more responsibilities related to the overall day-to-day management required to keep the household running. Gil and Kelly Jo present Carlin a purity ring. With Alyssa off and married, she inherits the role as the family's lead singer. As the resident "yodeler," Carlin showcases her vocal abilities at regional music festivals, performing with her family.