

"Moved by Mercy"

After hearing the story of the birth of my identical twin cousins, I now know the meaning of being moved by God's mercy. Things could have gone very differently for them, and my family tree would have looked different as well. Once I learned the full story of my aunt's pregnancy with them, I truly realized that God has a plan for everyone.

When my Aunt Adele and Uncle Jim found out they were pregnant with identical twins they were ecstatic, but their happiness was short-lived. Soon after, my aunt started to experience many complications such as extensive bleeding and cramps, and she learned that one twin was feeding off the other. Many doctors expressed concern for my aunt's health and the well-being of the babies. She bled so much she thought she miscarried many times. Doctor after doctor recommended that she abort the babies because they thought they would never be normal. They told her they could have cerebral palsy, holes in their hearts or not even be born at all. They were told it would be too difficult to care for two babies with such problems if they continued the pregnancy, but ending it was not an option. My aunt and uncle never gave up faith that God would take care of them and what was meant to be would be. After all, it was through the mercy of God they even got pregnant with IDENTICAL TWINS! That alone moved them to have faith and act with love and mercy as God wanted. Even after one doctor recommended they go to Kansas for a late term abortion, they kept their faith and continued with the belief that God had a plan. They did not take abortion as an easy way out, and thankfully so. They knew that God was

merciful so they acted with the same mercy. Hearing this story was the first time I understood what being moved by mercy actually was .

My cousins were born absolutely perfect! Looking at them I now understand what it means to be moved by mercy and can practically FEEL it. Thinking about how there was a chance they may not have been born almost brings me to tears. God showed his mercy on them because my aunt and uncle kept their faith and did not give into abortion just because it was easier. God's mercy was proven in the birth of my cousins. God had everything to do with them not having any birth defects and being beautiful young ladies today.

Being moved by mercy is experienced differently by everyone. For me it was in the decision my family made not to consider abortion when it looked like the only alternative and the healthy, perfect birth of my cousins. These two events proved to me that through God's mercy even the impossible is possible. I am a firm believer that when you act with mercy you will be shown mercy. I am forever grateful that my family has been touched and moved by God's great mercy.

Christian Ecker