

We adopted my little brother George just a year ago. That was the best decision my family ever made. George needed help and God chose our family to help him.

In 2013, George was born, but George was different. George was born in Xinhou, China with a cleft lip and palate. When his parents saw this feature, they knew they couldn't afford to help him. So, they set him on the steps of a temple and left.

My parents did research on adoption and special needs adoption centers. They saw how these children were in need of help. My parents already had five children, and that's already enough. That's why I believe my parents were **moved by mercy** into making this decision.

When my parents asked us about adopting another brother, my siblings may have been doubtful, but I was very interested and excited. After getting all the opinions on the adoption, my parents requested a match from the Wide Horizons For Children. Someone came to our house and did a "home study."

After that, we were matched with a special needs child who would fit in with our family. We were matched with George, and when my younger brother and I learned that George had a cleft palate and lip, honestly, we were a little bit worried. Would he be scary? Would he fit in? Would he want anything to do with me? Would I want anything to do with him? It was really stressful for me. At that time, I'd barely had any encounters with people with special needs. How would I deal with this?

After all the adoption paperwork, my mom left for China. I was still worried about what might happen. My mom was in China for two weeks. Throughout these two weeks, we had video chats with my mom. We tried to call her almost every day to see what was going on. I'd already seen pictures of George, but that was it. I was so concerned that I wasn't going to feel the same way about him as I do for my three other brothers. However, when my dad, brother, sister, and I went to the airport to pick up my mom and George, everything changed. Once I saw that cute little face, I forgot any doubts about adoption. I knew I was looking at our gracious gift from God.