

Glory Babies

Connecting, growing
and healing for God's glory.

A ministry of
The Children Are
A Gift Foundation.

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by Jodi Weaver

When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be." Psalm 139:16

Over the years, we have seen many people come through the Glory Babies support group. We have dealt with many different issues that seem to have ebbed and flowed through the years. We have walked along side those who have endured the loss of a baby through miscarriage, still birth and SIDS. We have walked along side those who have endured the loss of a child through a terrible accident. We have walked along side couples who have struggled with the different issues of how men and women grieve. And we have walked along side those who have almost lost their lives along with their baby.

The one issue that remains constant for our group is the issue of a small two letter word. "IF"! "If I had not lifted that box..." "If I had just stayed in bed like the doctor wanted." "If I could have just woke up sooner!" "If I had paid more attention to the kick count." "If....." I could go on and on. The number of times we have heard a statement start with "if" seems endless. I know for myself I have said a few of those "if" statements myself. "If they would have given me the steroid shots sooner." "If I would have realized the spasms were contractions sooner."

Where do we find the answers to all of these "If" questions? How do we deal with everyone's guilt? It seemed as if everyone assumes that they are at fault and that we have power over life and death.

We are reminded in Psalm 139 that we have absolutely no control at all. It says:

"O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O LORD. You hem me in—behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. If I say, 'Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,' even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you. For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my

Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise.

Jeremiah 17:14

Prayers and Praise

If you have a praise or prayer request to share, please email it to jennifer@childrenareagift.org with "Prayer or Praise" in the subject line. Please let us know if it is confidential or if we can share it with the group.

A wife who loses a husband is called a widow. A husband who loses a wife is called a widower. A child who loses his parents is called an orphan. But...there is no word for a parent who loses a child, that's how awful the loss is!

~ Neugeboren 1976



When a friend or family member has lost her baby...

What can I do?

The most important thing to remember when someone you love tells you this devastating news is to listen. You may want to offer some sort of advice or say something to minimize the pain, but it is very hard to say the right thing. Almost impossible. The only truly safe things to say are:

"I am so sorry."

"I will help any way I can. Tell me what I can do."

"I am here to listen whenever you need me."

Send her flowers. A teddy bear for the baby. Give a donation to a child-related or miscarriage organization. Show her what happened to her matters.

Clothe them in hugs. Something that offers much comfort is arms to hold you during this time. There's something to be said for a hug during grief. The warmth of another and the sincere feeling that they care for you certainly helps.

Send cards of comfort and support. It is a comforting thought to know someone took the time to send you words of comfort. Every card received reminds them they are not alone. And know that even three months passed is never too late to let them know you care.

Jennifer Carson Message of Hope

Our family was blessed to be able to go skiing in beautiful Colorado over Spring Break this year. Hope, my eight-year-old daughter, loves to ski and is usually up for a good challenge.

Our first day up on the slopes, we mistakenly ended up on one of the harder runs and it was a LONG one! The only way off it was across all the moguls and then straight down. She was scared to death and totally unable to navigate her own path. As she was wailing, I spoke FIRMLY to try and help her focus and coached her verbally to follow my tracks and do exactly as I was doing. On several occasions, she couldn't go any more emotionally and we would just have to sit down and rest. Once she collected herself, she would be able to get up and go some more. It was a VERY DIFFICULT afternoon, but we eventually made it all the way to the bottom of the mountain. I was so unbelievably proud of her for having the courage to keep going, even though everything inside her wanted to stop!

Later that day, when things had settled back down, we were able to process the day and talk about how life is sometimes like that black ski run. If I had not been there to encourage and guide her, I honestly don't believe she would have been able to navigate the slope herself. We talked about how God often sends someone into our path when we need encouragement to keep going through a difficult time in our lives.

As I was having this conversation with her, I thought about Glory Babies. That is EXACTLY what we do and how God faithfully uses us in the lives of others who need help during difficult times. He brings us alongside those who are hurting to offer encouragement and hope to continue on in the grief journey. The reason we exist is to be available for those who are grieving the tremendous loss of a baby. It's why we do what we do. We are so thankful to God for this ministry and all the lives it has touched through the years.

Thank you to everyone who has been a part of it all.



Children Are A Gift Foundation

Our Mission is to reach out to those who are hurting, to be a safe place to share with others who have gone through similar trials, to grow together through the grieving process, and allow Jesus to heal our broken hearts.

Our name is based on the song Glory Baby by Watermark. The song has personally ministered to many of us in the group.

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HOW TO REACH US

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GloryBabies.org

OUTREACH

Glory Babies' Meetings • Locations • Dates • Times

TYLER, TX

Women of Grace
235 S. Broadway, Tyler, TX 75701
3rd Tuesday of the month 6:30-8:30 p.m.
903-939-1597

LONGVIEW, TX

Fellowship Bible Church
4600 McCann Rd., Longview, TX 75605
2nd Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m.
Contact Aimee Akin at 903-452-8308

LEESVILLE, LA

East Leesville Baptist Church
266 Alexandria Hwy., Leesville, LA 71446
1st Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m.
For more information call 337-353-9789.

ARNOLD, MO

Calvary Hill Church
#19 Village Plaza, Arnold, MO 63010
3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m.
For more information call 314-308-1275.

Tips for Grieving Hearts

- Rely on God's healing power
- Express each emotion: good and bad
- Write down three things a day for which you are thankful
- Speak words of encouragement to someone else today
- Take pictures at the hospital, even if you don't ever develop them
- Ask any question to the medical staff, and demand answers
- Avoid making any big decisions for at least one year, and longer if needed
- Journal the good memories of the pregnancy
- Write a letter to your babies
- Make a memory box with pictures, footprints and handprints

Continued from page 1.

unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.”

These verses remind us that God is in control of everything. He knows when we are sitting down or standing up. He knows our words before they are even formed on our tongues. Whether we are awake or asleep; in the heavens or in the depths of hell, there is nowhere we can go and be hidden from God. Even in the hidden place of our mother's womb, God knows where we are and controls not only our present but our future. God has written the number of our days in his book before even one of them began.

That is so very comforting for me, because it takes all responsibility for the death of my

children out of my hands. It tells me that their lives were complete in the eyes of God. It reminds me every time I read it that there was nothing I could have done to change the outcome. Occasionally the “IF” questions will rise up in my mind and I have to remind myself that those questions are from the enemy trying to shake and test my faith. That God is fully in control the same as He has been since He created the universe. My prayer for you is that you will commit to memory these verses. Use them to comfort you in times of doubt and distress, and use them to send the enemy fleeing. No matter how many doubts he throws at you....your baby's life was complete and fulfilled from the moment they were conceived until their death. That is God's promise to us through this scripture.

Jesus, Is He With You?

Angela Gibson

Jesus, is he with you?
I wonder every day,
I sit and wonder why he's gone
And why he could not stay.

Every part of me is empty
I feel I can't go on,
But then I look to heaven
I hear this beautiful song.

“Mommy I am with him
He holds me in his arms,
Whenever I am with him
he keeps me safe and warm.

He says you shouldn't worry
I am safe and loved right here,
With all the other baby angels
that passed throughout the years.

We have a special place up here
He thought that you should know,
Where the Blessed Mother takes
your place for now
until you show.”

When I hear this
precious little voice
From the heavens up above,
I know that all the angels
are showering him with love.

For everyone that wants to hear
their babies voice so
innocent and sweet,
Just close your eyes
and begin to pray
and embrace them in your sleep.

Books that may help children cope:

- **Mommy, Please Don't Cry,**
Linda DeYmaz,
Laurie Snow Hein
- **We Were Gonna Have
a Baby, but We Had
an Angel Instead,**
Pat Schwiebert,
Taylor Bills

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble, with the comfort we ourselves have received from God

2 Corinthians 1:3-4



The Children's Park and Glory Babies

Children Are A Gift Foundation

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“I was angry and wondered why God allowed this to happen to me. Glory Babies helped me to realize that what I was feeling was normal and also that God has a perfect plan for my husband and me.”

CRYSTAL

“Children are a gift from the Lord.” ~ Psalms 127:3

Save the dates:

- ✓ 5 Year Celebration
9/18 Donor's Celebration
- 9/19 Founding Mother's Appreciation Brunch
- 9/19 Children's Teddy Bear Picnic
- ✓ 10/24 Walk in the Park

Ways to support our ministry...



Engraved Stone

A special way to celebrate the lives of all children, regardless of how brief their time was with us. Memorialize your child's name by having it engraved on a stone along the edge of the sidewalk in the Children's Park.

CALEB TATE
ROYCROFT

GAVIN COLE
ROYCROFT

JASON ALAN
RER

JESSICA AE
REIS