



In the summer of 1998 we published a newsletter focusing on infertility and loss. Since then several of our subscribers have requested that we publish a subsequent volume on this topic. Many families have shared their stories of exhausting all their financial resources to become pregnant, recounted their immense joy of achieving their long-awaited goal, then sadly describe how their elation came crashing down with the loss of their baby. Infertility is a grief in itself that often goes unrecognized by family members and friends, causing the infertile couple to slip into silent mourning. Once the parents conceive, their sorrow evolves into blissfulness, and true happiness once again fills the home. How cruel and unfair it seems for grief to sneak into the couple's lives again when their dream of having a baby is crushed by death.

In our previous issue I wrote about the account of Hannah, which is found in I Samuel 1-2. It is a beautiful story of a young barren woman who desperately wanted a child. She went to the temple and pleaded with God to grant her the desire of her heart. She vowed to the Lord that if she bore a son, she would make sure the child served Him all the days of his life. The Lord heard Hannah's prayer and gave her a son whom she named Samuel. As Hannah promised, once Samuel was weaned she sent him to live with the priest, Eli, in the temple. Although Samuel did not die, Hannah still lost the child for which she had longed. How painful it must have been for this

mother to leave her small son with an elderly priest! I can only imagine returning home and wondering if my little boy was secure, happy and well cared for.

I know we are not supposed to sugar coat our losses with the "at leasts..." Nonetheless, I am extremely grateful that at least I know my son is well taken care of. I can sleep at night knowing my Jonathan is not crying for me, nor is he insecure with his surroundings. The child I unwillingly gave up is safe in Heaven serving the Lord with all his heart and has more riches than Byron and I as parents could have given him. He will never experience pain, heartache or sufferings. Instead, the only life he will ever know is playing in the streets of gold and swimming in the River of Life.

Even though we know all this, why does it still seem so unfair? How come it's as if God tricks the infertile by allowing a conception, only to have the baby come live with Him? Or, why does a couple who has been told due to medical conditions they will never have biological children one day discover they indeed are expecting a baby, only to bury the child a few months later? These are questions that will continue to arise in our minds but will never be completely answered. We could drive ourselves crazy trying to figure it out and come up with theological answers to satisfy our emotions. The best advice I can offer when seeking resolution to your questions is to read God's word. When you need comfort, read some Psalms (remember the majority of them were written by King David, who knew the pain of losing a child). When you need help as you wonder why we endure sufferings, read the books of James and 1 Peter. Finally, always "trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight (Proverbs 3:5)."

Rebekah Mitchell



<u>Table of Contents</u>	
<i>When the Bottom Falls Out</i> , Walk update	Page 2
Upcoming Newsletter Topics, Meeting Schedule, <i>Empty Arms</i>	Page 3
Birthday Tributes to Our Special Babies	Pages 4-5
<i>My husband and I were infertility patients</i>	Page 6
Support Groups	Page 7
Music Resources, <i>My Baby</i> , Remembrance Day information	Page 8
Subsequent births, <i>Eliza</i> , Infertility resources	Page 9
In Loving Memory	Page 10
<i>Oh Father, I felt you move</i>	Page 11
M.E.N.D. fundraisers	
<i>It's been awhile</i>	Page 12
Editor's corner, T-shirt order form	Page 13
Newsletter Subscription Information	Page 14

When the Bottom Falls Out

By James O. Davis

Valentine's Day will never be the same for my wife, Sheri, and me. February 14, 1998, changed for us what is known as "Sweetheart's Day." Our son, a very small sweetheart, James Paul William Davis, was born more than two months early.

He was due on May 5, just as his sister had been. He lived only 12 hours and 55 minutes and died in Sheri's arms, just five feet from the place where our daughter, Jennifer Renee, had died seven years earlier after a valiant six-week fight for life.

When we married, Sheri and I anticipated having children. But we never expected that years later we would have buried two babies, experienced one miscarriage and endured 10 years of infertility treatments. It seemed as if the bottom of our lives had fallen out.

What do you do when the bottom falls out of your life? How do you handle the death of a family member or a close friend, or the shattered dreams from a broken heart?

First, when the bottom of life falls out, we need to **examine our foundation.**

In Matthew 7:24-27, Jesus used the analogy of an earthly house to speak of a spiritual house, a sanctuary for the soul. And he told of two kinds of builders. One built a house upon the rock, while the other built a house upon the sand. What made the difference between the two houses? It was the storm. The house built on rock stood firm, while the house built on sand fell apart. The life-threatening storm reveals the foundation of our lives.

Second, when the bottom of life falls out, we need to **express our faith.**

Sheri and I walked through the heartbreaking storms of losing two children. "The rain descended."¹ "The floods came."¹ "The winds blew."¹ Our faith was tested. We learned that a faith that cannot be tested is a faith that cannot be trusted. Faith is not tested during the sunshine; it is tested during the storms.

Faith is not getting what we want from God; it is receiving what God gives. It is faith in God that carries us through the tragic events of our lives.

Third, when the bottom of life falls out, we need to **eliminate our fears.**

We need to know where we stand before the difficult times come. When we know where we stand we can say, "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil."² In the midst of the bottom falling out of our lives, Sheri and I are learning to "fear no evil."²

Sometimes a deathly shadow can frighten us, but it cannot hurt us. When there is a shadow, we can know that there is a light above the shadow. For Christians, death is a shadow that reminds us of the Light, and death is a valley through which we walk to another pasture: heaven.

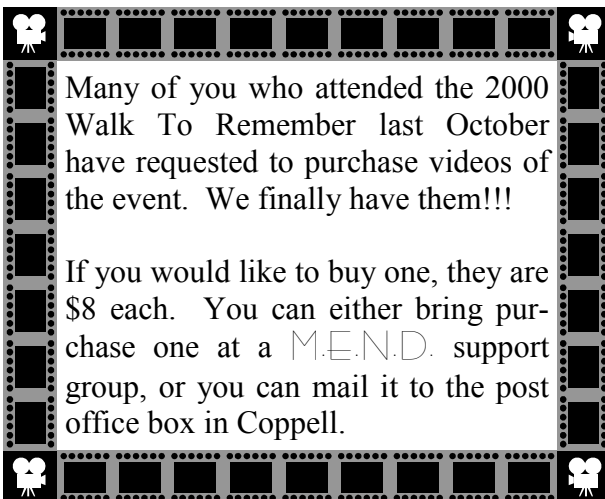
Is your house built on sand or on rock? Examine your foundation.

Do you have faith in God? Express your faith.

Do your eyes see God's light or only death's shadow? Eliminate your fears.

(1) Matthew 7:25, KJV, (2) Psalm 23:4, KJV

This article was taken from DECISION magazine, September, 2000; © 2000 Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, used by permission, all rights reserved.



Many of you who attended the 2000 Walk To Remember last October have requested to purchase videos of the event. We finally have them!!!

If you would like to buy one, they are \$8 each. You can either bring purchase one at a M.E.N.D. support group, or you can mail it to the post office box in Coppell.



Meet James O. Davis, author of "When the Bottom Falls Out"
at M.E.N.D.'s

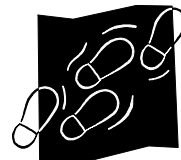
Walk to Remember

October 27, 2001

3:00 p.m.

Andy Brown Park East in Coppell, TX

Reverend Davis is the national evangelists' representative for the Assemblies of God world headquarters in Springfield, Missouri. He is also the founder of Cutting Edge International, Inc, an evangelistic ministry. He will be the guest speaker at the 2001 Walk to Remember.



Empty Arms

In my weakness, his strength is made perfect. ~ 2 Corinthians 12:9

I have good days where everything's okay
I have hard days that I'd rather sleep away
Sometimes I'm able to play my little game
But it only takes the laughter of a child
To remind me of my empty arms

Chorus

Now, I could raise them and sing praise to God above
And I could wrap them around someone who needs my love,
But there's nothing that could take away the endless ache
That I feel in my empty arms

They're all around me, they're everywhere I go
Happy mothers with a joy I may never know
Sometimes I'm able to rise above the pain
But it only takes the crying of a child
To remind me of my empty arms

There must be a reason, there's got to be a plan
I just have to trust him, even when I don't understand
Sometimes I'm able to leave the dream behind
But it only takes the singing of a child
To remind me of my empty arms

By Teri Curp, from her CD Look Ahead



September/October Topic

"That We Can Comfort" - Anniversary Issue
Deadline - July 31, 2001

M.E.N.D. will commemorate 5 years of ministry to hurting families in September. We would like to dedicate this issue to what our members have accomplished in five years, along with what we hope to achieve in the future. We would like to hear testimonials from you about how you have been able to use your grief experience to comfort others.

November/December Topic

Remembering Your Baby During the Holidays
Deadline - September 30, 2001

Stories, poems, thoughts, and/or feelings regarding these topics are welcomed. Submissions must be received by the deadline to be considered for publication in the newsletter. Unfortunately, there is not enough room to include all submissions. Choices will be left to the discretion of the editors. Please see the back page of the newsletter for the appropriate address to send your submissions. Any submission printed in our newsletter will also be posted to our website indefinitely unless we receive notice in writing that you are only granting permission for your submission to appear in the printed version of the newsletter.

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M.E.N.D. Support Group Meetings

Join us in a time of sharing experiences.

Regular M.E.N.D. meetings

are held the
2nd Thursday of every month from
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Mommies AND Daddies are both welcome at all of our meetings.

Threads of Hope, Pieces of Joy **Bible Study**

Please contact Jana Spigener
at (817) 468-9963 or
gaspigener@aol.com if interested.

Playgroup

*For families with children born prior
to or subsequent to a loss*
Contact Pam Morren
At (972) 335-8202
ashtonsmom98@hotmail.com

Our Daddies Group

meets the 2nd Thursday of
March, June, September, and December
From
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

This is a special time for Daddies to get together and discuss concerns unique to them as fathers. Our moms and dads meet together for introductions before dividing into two groups for discussion

For more information or directions,
Call (972) 459-2396.

*(Bible Studies and Playgroups meet at various
locations around the Dallas/Fort Worth
Metrolplex.)*

Subsequent Pregnancy Group

meets the 4th Tuesday
of each month from
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

*For families who are considering becoming
pregnant or are currently pregnant after a loss*

All support group meetings are held at:

**1159 Cottonwood Lane, Suite 150
Irving, Texas (Las Colinas) 75038**
(This is on the west side of MacArthur
Boulevard, across the street from the Four
Seasons Resort.
There is a Holiday Inn Express at the en-
trance of Cottonwood Lane.)

Birthday Tributes to Our Special Babies

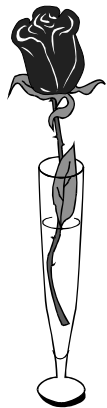
MY CHILD

If I could have a lifetime wish,
 A dream that would come true,
 I'd pray to God with all my heart for yesterday and you.
 A thousand words can't bring you back;
 I know because I've tried.
 And neither will a million tears,
 I know because I've cried.
 You left behind my broken heart,
 And happy memories too
 I never wanted memories,
 I only wanted you.
 ~ Author Unknown ~

We wish you were here to share in our fun. We miss you so much. You are our special angel in heaven.
 Love, your little sisters Hannah and Emily

We said "goodbye" before we said "hello."
 We love and miss you so much Cailey baby! Time stands still until we meet again.
 Love, Mommy & Daddy

Cailey Elizabeth Ottinger,
 born still June 7, 1996 due to a cord accident
 Parents: George and Laurie Ottinger
 Little sisters: Hannah and Emily



Andrew Bailey Carpenter
 A tiny bud
 Sent but not given
 To bloom on earth
 And blossom in Heaven
 Wishing you a happy 2nd birthday.
 We love and miss you dearly,
 Mommy, Daddy, and Abby

Andrew Bailey Carpenter
 Stillborn July 14, 1999
 Unknown cause
 Parents: Melissa & Todd Carpenter
 Twin sister: Abigail

Happy 4th Birthday Jordan!

We love you and miss you.

Love,

Mommy, Daddy, Jake, Samantha,
and your puppy Allie Girl

In memory of Jordan Ann Willhite

Stillborn May 29, 1997

Incompetent Cervix

Parents: William and Shannon Willhite

Siblings: Jake and Samantha



Happy 3rd Birthday
 to our handsome little man,
COLBY ALLEN COZART



Not a day goes by that we don't think about you, miss you or love you.

Love,

Mommy, Daddy,
big sister Caitlyn
and little sister Carlee



In loving memory of Colby
August 17, 1998 - October 19, 1998

Lost to SIDS

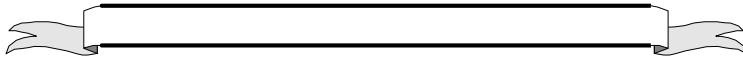
at the tender age of 9 weeks

Parents: Michele and Dwayne Cozart

Sisters: Caitlyn and Carlee

 * *Samantha Nichole Starks* *
 * *stillborn August 16, 2000,* *
 * *due to twisted cord* *
 * *we love and miss our little girl.* *
 * *Happy first birthday.* *
 * *Parents: Mandy and Reggie Starks* *





In loving memory of
Erika Brienne Grau
 July 9, 1997 – August 3, 1997
 Uterine Rupture
 Parents: Ray & Yvette Grau
 Siblings: NikRyan and Nataly

I know that where you are there is no tracking of time; meanwhile, here on earth we commemorate your 4th Birthday.

We also remember the glorious 26 days that God allowed us to hold you before He called for you while you lay in my arms, an honorable moment I cannot describe.

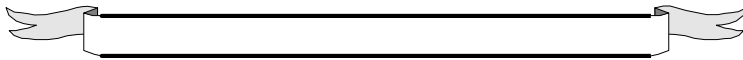
Full term and we almost made it through labor, only God had other plans for you, my angel.

*Your beauty so breathtaking,
 your life of silence so profound in my ears and heart.
 Your big, brown expressive eyes watch from above now,
 a perspective granted to only those chosen by Him.*

*The impact you made will long be remembered.
 Your death not in vain but rather a message delivered,
 a message that will remain anonymous to most;
 we carry in our hearts today and forever.
 I will do God's will for your message to continue.*

*Although four years have passed - time does not heal.
 I believe God, not time, provides the strength I need daily,
 especially when confusion and pain strike unexpectedly.
 I believe we will be together again.*

*We love and miss you so very much..
 Mom, Dad, NikRyan & Nataly*



RAINBOWS



Ray of hope that brightly shines through each magnificent color.
 Adorned with peace and tranquility that warms the heart.
 In quest we go for the pot of gold that brings life's fullest riches.
 Nothing heals the heart and soul like a rainbow of joy, after the storm of pain.
 Beauty to behold, happiness to capture, a soul at peace, and a heart full of love,
 are there for the taking.
 On a cloud, this very minute, far in the distance, a rainbow is born.
 Whoever gazes upon its splendor cannot help but be transformed.
 So next time the storm of life brings you to your knees, look up into the sky for
 your rainbow is not far behind.

Written by Jan Heffley
 Happy 2nd Birthday Jordan Ashley Heffley
 We love and miss you so very much!!
 Mom, Dad, Jonathan, Jasmine, and baby sister Jillian Ashley
 Jordan Ashley Heffley
 Born/died: July 5, 1999 (lived for 9 hours)
 Cause of death: Trisomy 13



For Our Angel Babies—
 Jordan,
 We never saw you or held you,
 But we loved you
 from the minute we knew of you.
 Spencer,
 Our sweet boy, we think of you every day.
 Our pain is less, but we love you even more.
 You have been our guardian angels this year,
 Watching over Mommy and Daddy and your baby sister.
 We know one day we will all be together in Heaven.

Love,
 Mommy and Daddy
 Remembering with Love,
 Jordan Tschoepe, Miscarried August 1, 1999,
 and
 Spencer Charles Tschoepe, Stillborn July 24, 2000
 Parents: Mandy and Ernie Tschoepe



July 17, 2001

Happy 5th Birthday, Michael!

We love and miss you!
 Love, Mom, Dad, Paul & Maggie.



Michael Joseph Böer
 Stillborn July 17, 1996
 Trisomy 18

Parents: Paul and Lynne Böer
 Siblings: Paul, Jr. and Maggie

Happy 3rd Birthday, Jackson!



It is still so hard for us to understand why you are not here with us. We would love to be planning your big boy third birthday party. We think of you every day and especially when we visit your bench in the park. We know you would love your new baby brother, Andrew. When he is older, Hannah says we will tell him all about his big brother in Heaven. Some day, we will all be together. We love you and miss you so very much, angel.

Mommy, Daddy, big sister Hannah and little brother Andy

In memory of Jackson David Crowe
 August 22, 1998 - September 9, 1998
 Cause: heart failure / congenital heart defect
 Parents: Marie and David Crowe

My husband and I were infertility patients and used "assisted reproductive technology" for two of our three children. Our six year old daughter Hannah was conceived using injections to stimulate my ovaries and intra uterine insemination using David's sperm. In the world of infertility, that is relatively "low tech." Our almost one-year-old son Andrew is a "high tech" baby and was conceived using in vitro fertilization and embryo transfer with intra cytoplasmic sperm injection (IVF-ET / ICSI). In this procedure I again took the drugs to stimulate my ovaries, but this time the eggs were removed during a minor surgical procedure and fertilized by actually injecting David's sperm into them. The embryos began to divide in the laboratory and eventually two were transferred into my uterus. One implanted and became Andrew!

In between Hannah and Andrew was Jackson - who was conceived naturally! Unfortunately, Jackson was born with a congenital heart defect which was not diagnosed during my pregnancy. He was born in heart failure, underwent open heart surgery to try to repair his defective mitral valve when he was eleven days old, and died about a week following surgery.

I think infertility affected my grieving process with Jackson in that it made me struggle more with the "why" question. By that, I mean that when we unexpectedly conceived naturally after we had had to go to such lengths to get pregnant with our first child, we felt certain that this was a child that God clearly meant for us to have. So, when he died, I had to question why God ever let me get pregnant in the first place if I was ultimately going to end up losing this child. It seemed like such a cruel trick. Honestly, I still struggle with it, although I definitely have more peace with Jackson's life and death now.

The second way infertility impacted our grieving process is that I felt like I needed to start sooner to conceive again than I might otherwise have. Given our history of infertility and our ages, we didn't feel like we had the "luxury" to take a year or longer to grieve for our baby. I went to see my infertility doctor three months after our baby died - and cried through the entire consultation! I clearly wasn't very far along in my journey of healing, but my doctor agreed that we needed to start right away.

Unfortunately, we tried three unsuccessful insemination procedures over the next nine months before we embarked on our IVF procedure. The infertility treatment process is very stressful - lots of doctor's appointment and lots of shots. The time-consuming regime, the powerful drugs and the roller coaster of good news and bad news are extremely emotional for most women and hard on most marriages. When you add that to the powerful emotions at play in the grieving process, it can often be overwhelming. In our case, I ended up quitting work, because even working part-time was just too much given the demands of pursuing infertility treatment, grieving the loss of our baby and caring for our then three-year-old daughter.

Our third unsuccessful pregnancy attempt coincided with the one year anniversary of the birth and death of our baby. It made a difficult time even worse! An entire year had gone by, we didn't have our precious boy and the likelihood of having another baby seemed to be getting smaller and smaller. It all seemed so sad. I felt like it was enough of a loss that our son died. You want to think that you have "had your share" of misfortune and that you are done with tragedy. During our subsequent struggle to get pregnant, I realized I don't get to "set the amount" of bad things that happen to me. In this sense, I think another way that infertility impacted our infant loss, and grieving was this scary realization that disappointment can just keep coming.

At that point, our doctor recommended moving to IVF. We knew that was our best option, but we had major reservations. The odds of becoming pregnant during IVF clearly increase if more than one embryo is transferred. But, because we had already lost a baby who had struggled with so many health problems, we were really terrified of a multiple pregnancy and the possibility of premature babies with all the associated health risks. Also, we were very concerned that I would have to go on substantial bed rest with a multiple pregnancy. We were worried about how that might affect our daughter, who had been going through her own grief process. The decisions a couple faces in an IVF cycle can be very difficult. I think ours were made even more emotional and difficult, because they were made against the backdrop of the recent loss of our baby.

I had decided I was only going to try IVF once, so I hated to limit our chances of success by only transferring one embryo. In the end, after much discussion and consultation with our doctors, we transferred both of the viable embryos we had. We felt very fortunate that only one implanted and that none were left over that we had to freeze, donate or destroy. Those are very difficult decisions to make also.

It was such great news when we found out we were pregnant! But, it had taken such tremendous effort and a whole year. I felt like we had waged a war and it was over, but now we had the entire pregnancy ahead of us. It made the pregnancy seem much longer than nine months.

I feel so sad when I hear of women who have lost babies and I feel so bad for women when they have to undergo infertility treatments. When a woman has to deal with both of these burdens, my heart really goes out to her. It is a lot to bear. And yet, somehow my husband and I made it through all this. Sometimes it is hard for us to believe how much we still miss our little boy, Jackson. That loss never really does go away. But, now we have Andy, Jackson's little brother, who has brought tremendous joy into our family. We always say that Andrew is the result of lots of prayer and the latest in reproductive medical technology. We never take for granted the "getting" or "keeping" of babies in the way many people who have not struggled with infertility or the loss of a child might. We are so very grateful for our children.



*By Marie Crowe
In memory of Jackson David Crowe
August 22, 1998—September 9, 1998
Heart failure/ congenital heart defect*

Support Groups

Several months ago we requested that our subscribers send us information about their support groups that we could include in our database. If you would like your support group added to our directory, please send the pertinent information to Rebekah at either the M.E.N.D. postal address or our e-mail address.

United States

ARIZONA

Arizona SIDS Alliance
PO Box 85001-1111
Phoenix, AZ 85001
1-800-597-7437

CALIFORNIA

HAND (Helping After Neonatal Death)
of Santa Clara County
PO Box 341
Los Gatos, CA 95031
(408) 732-3228
www.h-a-n-d.org
info@h-a-n-d.org

Good Mourning Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support
3389 Via Dona
Lompoc, CA 93436
(805) 733-5225
ctmontel@best1.net
Meet the 1st and 3rd Monday 7-9:00 p.m.
Pregnancy Support Center
601 East Ocean Ave Suite 6
Lompoc, CA 93436

HAND of Peninsula
Sequoia Health and Wellness Services
702 Marshall St.
Redwood City, CA
(650) 367-6993
Contact Celia Hartnett

Mothers in Sympathy Support (M.I.S.S.)
Riverside Chapter
Attn: Mia-Riverside Facilitator
P.O. Box 7403
Riverside, Ca 92513-7403
Phone: (909) 686-2686
Meet 2nd Monday of each month, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Hunt Park Community Center
4015 Jackson St.
(Located next to ParkView Hospital --Major cross street:
Magnolia Ave.)

ILLINOIS

Healing Hearts of Rockford
c/o Rockford Memorial Hospital
Dept. of Maternal - Fetal Medicine
2400 N. Rockton Ave.
Rockford, IL 61103
Or call Ask-A-Nurse (815) 971-3737

INDIANA

Resolve Through Sharing
Community Hospital
901 MacArthur Blvd.
Munster, Indiana 46321
(219) 836-4571
Contact: Sue Armstrong
Group meets at 7:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday
of each month.

Healing Hearts
Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center
801 East LaSalle Ave.
South Bend, IN 46617
Contact: Melissa Barrett
(219) 282-2147
noahsmom@mivillage.com

NEW JERSEY

MISS
502 Montgomery Ave.
Somers Point, NJ 08244
(609) 653-3046
www.geocities.com/Heartland/valley/1800/miss.
html
4ourkids@msn.com
Contact: Kathy Evans

MIDS (Miscarriage, Infant Death & Stillbirth Sup-
port Group, Inc.)
16 Crescent Dr.
Parsippany, NJ 07054-1605
(973) 263-6730
mids@nac.net
Contact: Janet Tischler

TENNESSEE

Friends Helping One Another Through Loss
Child Loss Support
Teenagers Coping With Child Loss
(Three different groups)
42 Kilday Lane
Greeneville, TN 37445
Angel_Mommy_1999@yahoo.com
or
Chrissypooh_99@yahoo.com
http://www.angelfire.com/tx2/angelbecca/
Contact Person: Jean Stewart

TEXAS

MEND
PO Box 1007
Coppell, TX 75019
(972) 459-2396
(888) 695-MEND (toll free)
http://www.mend.org
Rebekah@mend.org
Contact: Rebekah Mitchell
Meetings are held at 1159 Cottonwood Ln.
Irving, TX 75038
2nd Thursday of every month
at 7:30 p.m.

Mikela's Miracles SIDS Connection
Mike & Chrissy Lipscomb
www.mikelasmiracles.org
2601 Thistle Ln
Rowlett TX 75089
1-866-286-SIDS toll free
972-463-9243 local
Meets 1st Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m.
at Reinhardt Bible Church
2302 Northeast Pkwy, Garland, TX
Dinner is provided.

Share of Fort Worth
North Hills Hospital
Grapevine Hwy & Hwy 820
Meets 2nd Wednesday
7:00 p.m.
Contact: Lorin Koemel
9077 Elbe Trail
Fort Worth, TX 76118
(817) 595-0833
E-mail koemel@hotmail.com

South Austin Medical Center
Austin, TX
(No other information given)

Resolve Through Sharing
Charlton Hospital
3500 W. Wheatland
Dallas, TX 75237
Meets the 3rd Wednesday of every
month at 7:30 p.m.

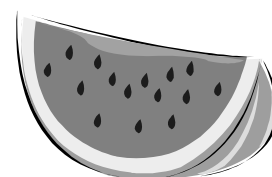
Angels Away
c/o CHRISTUS Santa Rosa
Health Care
Spiritual Care Department
333 N. Santa Rosa Street
San Antonio TX 78207
(210) 704-2181
Meetings are held 3rd Thursday of
every month at 7 p.m. in the Spiritual
Care Dept.

Australia

Murraylands Lutheran Stillborn Infant
Support Service
11 Ida St.
Murray Bridge, South Australia 5253
(08) 85324627
(08) 85324897
Contact: Lynne Schulz

Canada

Morning Light Ministries
St. Mary Star of the Sea Church
11 Peter St. South
Mississauga, Ontario L5H-2G1



Music Resources

The following music has been helpful to others during their time of grief.

Angel Unaware

Words and music by
Shari Buie and Tamara Miller
HeartSong 96
826 Royal Birkdale Dr.
Garland, TX 75044



Home Free

Words and music by Wayne Watson
Watson's *Home Free* CD can be found at most Christian bookstores.

Together We Can Heal

A beautiful collection of music for bereaved families. Call or write:
Source Music
P.O. Box 1543
Colorado Springs, CO 80901
719-442-0152/ 800-338-4312 (orders)
<http://www.sourcemusic.com>
<http://www.sourcemusic.com/heal>
(This URL takes you directly to the recording.)

Thought You'd Be Here

Words and music by Wes King
From his CD *A Room Full of Stories*,
available for purchase at most Christian bookstores.

I'll Meet You in the Morning

By Karen Ritchey
<http://www.members.cnx.net/kritchey/>
e-mail: kritchey@cnx.net

With Hope

By Steven Curtis Chapman
From his CD *Diving In*, available for purchase at most Christian bookstores.

Goodbye for Now

Words by Kathy Troccoli, music by Scott Brasher and Kathy Troccoli
From Troccoli's CD *Corner of Eden*, available for purchase at most Christian bookstores.

Glory Baby

Written by Nathan and Christy Nockels
Found on Watermark's *All Things New* CD,
can be purchased at Christian bookstores.

Empty Arms

Words and music by Teri Curp
From her CD *Look Ahead*
Teri Curp Ministries
1413 NE Grand Avenue
Lee's Summit, MO 64086
816-246-8374
tcsings@swbell.net
www.tericurp.com

"Help Me to Remember"

Songs from the Father to Help You Find Comfort in Sorrow
Dennis Jernigan
Shepherd's Heart Music
www.dennisjernigan.com

My Baby

She had brown eyes and brown hair and delicate skin.
That is what I will tell you,
That is where I'll begin.

I can't tell you about the sound of her cry,
But I can tell you how it feels for your baby to die.

I can't tell you about how she kept me up all night,
But I can tell you of the hope I feel with the morning light.

I can't tell you how long she nursed at my breast,
But I can tell you how this was my greatest test.

I can't tell you how much she loved her blankie,
But I can tell you her beauty was wonderful to see.

I can't tell you what her first word would have been,
But I can tell you how my soul trembled within.

I can't tell you what her favorite clothes would be,
But I can tell you of the hours spent on bended knee.

I can't tell you what would have been her favorite treat,
But I can tell you that living without her is quite a feat.

I can't tell you if she was right or left handed,
But I can tell you how sometimes I feel branded.

I can't tell you about her first day at school,
But I can tell you some words can be hurtful and cruel.

I can't tell you about the day she learned how to walk,
But I can tell you so many things if you really want me to talk.

She had brown eyes and brown hair and delicate skin.
That is what I will tell you,
That is where I'll begin.

*Written by JoAnn Barnhart
in memory of her daughter
Jasmine Isabella,
stillborn on February 15, 2001,
due to Trisomy 18*

Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day

Tammy Novak (founder of Angel Babies Forever Loved), Robyn Bear (of Pain, Heartache and Hope), and Lisa Brown (of We Help Other Parents Endure) began the "Light a Candle for Our Angel Babies" campaign last year. As a result, a few states issued proclamations naming October 15th as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day. This year they are working toward all having all 50 states issue that proclamation and have Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day as an annual event.

M.E.N.D. has joined the list of organizations supporting this goal.

To see if your state is involved or to see how you can participate, visit www.pregnancyandinfantloss.com.

Subsequent Births

Roger and Robin Christian,
along with big sister Kaila,
of Mount Airy, North Carolina,
proudly announce the arrival of
Joshua Dale,
born April 14, 2001, 12:27 p.m.,
5 lbs., 9 oz., 18.5 inches long.

The Christians lovingly remember
Emilie Grace,
stillborn August 11, 1999,
due to incompetent cervix.

Brian and Jean Mueller,
along with big sister Ashley,
of Richardson, Texas,
joyfully announce the birth of
Mark Allen,

June 6, 2001, 10:16 a.m.

He weighed 8 lbs., 9 oz., 19 1/2 inches long.

The Muellers lovingly remember
Matthew James,
stillborn August 16, 1998,
due to premature labor.

Deidre and Kyle Bramlett
of Rockwall, Texas,
proudly announce the arrival of
Jackson David
June 1, 2001,
6 lbs. 11 oz.

The Bramletts lovingly remember
Kayce Dolores,
March 14- 15, 1999,
premature at 24 weeks.

Brett and Susan Hathcock,
along with big sister Amy Mowrey,
of Bryson, Texas,
proudly announce
the birth of their son
Brett Kody,
born January 7, 2001,
7 lbs., 5.5 oz., 19 inches long.

The Hathcock family lovingly remembers
Brett Anthony Edward,
December 1, 1999 - May 29, 2000,
complications due to prematurity

Michelle & Denis Hyams-Ssekasi
and big brother Joshua Evalist
of Bolton, England, UK,
proudly announce the birth of their beloved son
Noah Terence.

Noah was born April 26, 2001,
weighing 8 lbs., 4 oz., and 19 inches long.

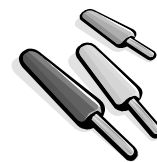
The Hyams thank God
for taking them through this pregnancy
and above all for the gift of Noah.
The Hyams lovingly remember
the loss of their unborn baby
November 2, 1998.

Kresten and Mary Jane McGrath,
along with daughters Chloe and Hannah,
of Chandler, Arizona,
announce with great joy
the births of their triplets,

Matthew Kresten, Olivia Frances, and Abigail Amelia
on March 31, 2001.

They weighed 5.4 lbs., 4.7lbs., and 4.7lbs., respectively.

The McGrath family lovingly remembers
Katherine Jane Eliza (Kate Eliza),
February 29 - March 2, 2000
due to Hypoplastic Left Heart.



ELIZA

by Kresten and Mary Jane McGrath

From the joy when we learned you were coming
To the first time we heard your heartbeat
To the day we painted a tree in your room
with birds
and butterflies
And rolling green hills.
To the day we bought your first dress,
To the day you finally arrived.
To the moment we heard your first cry-
Saw your beautiful face,
Your bright eyes,
Your red hair
To the first moment we held you, our precious child,
To the instant we knew your name-
Katherine Jane (we'd call you Kate)
To that awful moment when they said
you wouldn't be here for long
To our unbearable pain
When we anguished at the thought of losing
you
Yet felt the Savior carrying us.
To the first time you met your sisters
To your beautiful blessing day
When we knew what a gift you were
Your love for us
Your joy at your birth
Your peace with the Father's plan.

To the first time we had to say good-bye
To the first day without you
To the first holiday
The first month after you were gone
Your first birthday
To the rest of our lives.
Finally to the first day when we'll hold
you again,
That day of incomprehensible joy.
Our first redhead-
First to go home-
First to be missed-
Our eternal daughter
Our only Kate Eliza.

In memory of Katherine Jane Eliza

(Kate Eliza) McGrath,

February 29 - March 2, 2000

due to Hypoplastic Left Heart.

Parents: Kresten and Mary Jane McGrath

Siblings: Chloe, Hannah, Matthew, Abby, and Olivia

Infertility resources**Hannah's Prayer**

Providing Christian Support for Fertility Challenges. Online newsletter available.
P.O. Box 5016, Auburn, CA 95604-5016
775-852-9202, <http://www.hannah.org/>

INCIID

<http://www.inciid.org/>

Infertility

<http://www.fertilethoughts.net>

Journey to Jordan

A ministry for families dealing with infertility and adoption. Publishes a newsletter for a small fee.

4511 E. Gatewood Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85024-6938

Reproductive Medicine Program

<http://repro-med.net>

Resolve

<http://www.resolve.org/>

Stepping Stones

Offers Christian hope, encouragement, and support to infertile couples. Publishes a bi-monthly newsletter.

c/o Bethany Christian Services

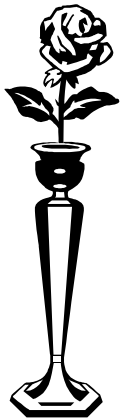
901 Eastern Avenue NE

P.O. Box 294

Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0294

<http://www.bethany.org/step/>

In Loving Memory



Michael Joseph Böer
Stillborn July 17, 1996
Trisomy 18
Given by parents,
Paul and Lynne Böer
and siblings Paul, Jr. and
Maggie

Madison Angela Moore
May 3, 2000
Turner's Syndrome
& Fetal Hydrops
Given by parents,
Andy and Jennifer Moore

Grace Miller
Stillborn December 30, 2000
Fifth's Disease
Given by parents,
Allen and Leona Miller

M.E.N.D.

gratefully acknowledges these gifts of love given in memory of a baby, relative, friend or given by someone just wanting to help. These donations help us to continue M.E.N.D.'s mission by providing this newsletter and other services to bereaved parents free of charge. Please refer to the back page of this newsletter for more information regarding where to send your donations and what information to include.

*In loving memory of
Ashley Machenzie Brown
May 18, 2001*



*Born at 24 weeks due to apa antibody syndrome
Parents: Brian and Marilyn Brown
With her in heaven is big sister Sydney
Stillborn May 18, 2000, due to unknown cause*

Jonathan Daniel Mitchell
Stillborn June 24, 1995
Cord Accident
Given by parents, Byron and Rebekah Mitchell
and big brother Byron, Jr.

Jonathan Daniel Mitchell
Stillborn June 24, 1995
Cord Accident
Parents, Rebekah and Byron Mitchell
Big brother, Byron, Jr.
Given by grandparents Dennis and Sue Brewer

Jonathan Daniel Mitchell
Stillborn June 24, 1995
Cord Accident
Parents, Byron and Rebekah Mitchell
Big brother, Byron, Jr.
Given by Tom and Kristi Hoover

Jonathan Daniel Mitchell
Stillborn June 24, 1995
Cord Accident
Parents, Byron and Rebekah Mitchell
Big brother, Byron, Jr.
Given by Lowell and Alta Weems

Garrett Anthony Mayer
October 12 - December 18, 1999
Tetralogy of fallot - congenital heart defect
Parents, Tony and April Mayer
Given by Robert Trupia

Faith Elizabeth Durham
Stillborn September 25, 1999
Triploidy
Given by parents, Leighton and Lisa Durham
and little brother Leighton IV

Lauren Paige Grimes
Stillborn March 6, 1999
Unknown Cause
Baby Grimes
Miscarried January 2001
Given by parents, John and Paula Grimes

Lauren Paige Grimes
Stillborn March 6, 1999
Unknown Cause
Baby Grimes
Miscarried January 2001
Parents, John and Paula Grimes
Given by grandparents
Joseph and Lanell Grimes

Thank you

M.E.N.D. would like to thank all those who donated to the Ashley Brown fund and express sincere sympathy to the Brown family.

Blake Leland Allen
April 21, 1999
Preterm Labor/
Incompetent Cervix
Lauren Grace Allen
Stillborn February 13, 2000
Unknown Cause
Given by parents,
Sean and Jan Allen
and Lauren's twin brother, Zachary

Timothy "Schyler" Morren II
September 28 - December 23, 1997
SIDS
Given by parents, Tim and Pam Morren
and little sisters Ashton and Alexa

Cailey Elizabeth Ottinger
Stillborn June 7, 1996
Cord Accident
Given by parents, George and Laurie Ottinger
and little sisters Hannah and Emily

Baby Duffin
Miscarried April 12, 1999
Jack Wade Duffin
May 29, 2000
Unknown Cause
Given by parents, Leanne and Phillip Duffin

Mercedes Ruth Spigener
Stillborn September 21, 1995
Intramembranous Insertion of Umbilical Cord
Twin Blossoms Spigener
Miscarried July 1996 & August 1996
Parents, Grant and Jana Spigener
Little brothers, Wyatt and Ford
Given by grandparents Barry and Sheryl
Spigener and Aunt Jamie Lyn Spigener

Emily Jo Perry
Stillborn October 17, 2000
Non-Immune Hydrops Fetalis
Given by parents, John and Jo Perry
and big brother Will

Emily Jo Perry
Stillborn October 17, 2000
Non-immune Hydrops Fetalis
Parents, John and Jo Perry
Big brother, Will
Given by friends Wes and Lori Walker

... *In Loving Memory*

Evan James Ehlert

February 20 - 21, 2001

Cord Accident

Given by parents, Dan and Kathy Ehlert

Erika Brienne Grau

July 9 - August 3, 1997

Anoxic Brain Injury due to Ruptured Uterus

Given by parents, Ray and Yvette Grau
and siblings NikRyan and Nataly

India Taylor Jones

Stillborn September 4, 1999

Cord Accident

Given by parents, Brian and Lori Jones

Jordan Ann Willhite

Stillborn May 29, 1997

Incompetent Cervix

Given by parents,
William and Shannon Willhite
and siblings Jake and Samantha
and your puppy Allie Girl

Joseph Charles Libby

Stillborn May 26, 1999

Cord Accident

Given by parents, Wim and Sharlene Libby
and siblings Will, John, and Mary Grace

Oh Father, hear my anguished cry
As my gift from Thee is taken.
My heart is heavy and forlorned,
My knees are weak and shaken.

The joy that once filled my soul
Has fled and is no more
And now my body and my dreams
Are broken, bruised and sore.

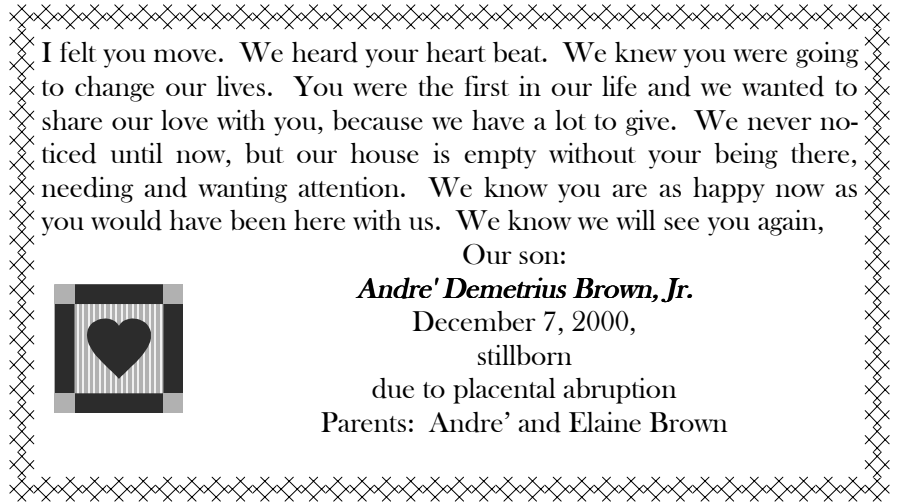
I know my purpose and my mission
To be a wife and mother on earth
But alas, my baby has been taken
Before my time of giving birth.

As the despair engulfs me
And I succumb to the darkening tide
I feel two arms embrace me
And pull me to his side.

As I looked I beheld
The angel sent from heaven above
To carry me through this earthly trial
And shower me with abundant love.

Then he kissed my tear-stained face
And gently stroked my hair
And I gave thanks for my husband
And the special love we share.
Author unknown

Contributed by Lori and David King in memory of Sarah Ann, stillborn 6/22/95



M.E.N.D. Fundraisers

As a non-profit organization MEND is funded solely by private donations and fundraisers. Any assistance you can give us by participating in any or all of these fundraisers is greatly appreciated.

NEW FUNDRAISER: M.E.N.D. member Amy Allred is a **Creative Memories** consultant. She is planning a Creative Memories fundraiser for July 17 at 7:00 p.m. at the regular meeting place in Coppell (first-time attenders can call for directions). All proceeds of that night's meeting will benefit M.E.N.D. Amy plans to make this fundraiser an ongoing event by donating to M.E.N.D. 20 percent of all sales made by M.E.N.D. members. If you would like to attend the July 17 class, gather 8 to 10 photos taken at one event or relating to the same theme, then contact Amy so she can make preparations for your attendance. Her phone number is (972) 390-0012, and her e-mail address is theallreds@juno.com.

Kroger grocery stores donate a percentage of all purchases of those shoppers who have and use a Kroger Share Card. To obtain your Share Card, contact Rebekah via one of the ways listed on the last page of this newsletter, and let her know how many you need. This program is valid in Texas, but residents of other states may need to check with store managers to see if they participate.

Tom Thumb also has a program in Texas that can benefit M.E.N.D. If you have a Tom Thumb Reward Card, please ask your Tom Thumb cashier to link your card with M.E.N.D. Our number is **6265**. If you are already linked to another organization, they will split a donation of one percent of your purchases between the organizations. It only takes about five minutes to get a Reward Card, and it can also be used at Rاندalls and Simon David stores.

Kathryn Padilla, a M.E.N.D. member, is an independent **Mary Kay** consultant who is donating ten percent of all sales to M.E.N.D. if they are made by M.E.N.D. members. Members also get ten percent off their first online order. You can shop online at www.mymk.com/kpadilla1.

Kim Robinson, a **Pampered Chef** kitchen consultant and M.E.N.D. family member, is donating 10-15 percent of sales to M.E.N.D. members back to our organization. You can browse products at www.pamperedchef.com, then e-mail Kim at kimr@cheerful.com to place an order.

Stamps.com offers a \$10-\$20 referral program. If you would like to purchase stamps from home and receive a free postage scale, visit www.stamps.com, and use referral code C-4FTJ-TWR. Stamps.com will give the incentive money to M.E.N.D. in the form of free postage.

The Weaver's Thread is a book of poetry by Angelique Cooper-McGlotten honoring the five babies she lost. A percentage of the sale of this book will go to M.E.N.D. For more information, contact Vision Publishing Group at (770) 467-0039.

It's been awhile since we experienced fertility problems and the loss of our first two babies, but these memories will be with me forever. We started trying to get pregnant in 1995. My younger sister was expecting her first baby, and I was anxious to get pregnant too. My sister and I always wanted to be pregnant at the same time. Then the anticipated day arrived and my sister was admitted to the hospital for induction. I waited for the call that her labor started and instead I got a call that they couldn't find a heartbeat. I caught the first flight out to be with my sister and her husband as they delivered their stillborn baby boy on September 29, 1995. He was named Grant Jacob Spachek. I feel privileged to have watched his stillbirth and hold him afterwards. My heart was broken as I watched my sister and her husband bury their son. I hurt so badly for them, and I thought it was the worst day of my life. But I was wrong.

When we started trying to get pregnant, I had to take a medication to reduce my elevated prolactin level, which can prevent ovulation. After 6 months of unsuccessful trying, my doctor put me on a fertility drug. A year later, in July 1996, we got pregnant. I was thrilled because my sister was also pregnant again. Our dream was coming true. My family gave me a surprise mother-to-be shower and my sister and I had matching T-shirts showing the month our babies were due. It was a very happy time. Then in late September a sonogram showed that my baby's heartbeat had stopped. I had a D & C the next day and my very pregnant sister flew to Dallas to be with me as I lost my baby. I now knew the grief she had experienced, and although my baby was only 9 ½ weeks in gestation it was a loss that shattered me. This was now the worst day of my life.

We attended a support group at the hospital, and this helped. At times the grief was overwhelming. It was not just the grief of losing the baby, but also the grief of not knowing if we would ever get pregnant again. It was like a roller coaster ride. As each month came I was excited about the possibility of getting pregnant. I lived for the days I was ovulating and we got to try. Then I would wait anxiously praying that my menstrual cycle would not start. Each time it did I would cry. Finally, in March 1997, we got pregnant again. But two weeks later I started spotting, and after another two weeks of bed rest the doctor said the pregnancy was ectopic, meaning the embryo had implanted outside the uterus. An embryo outside the uterus cannot survive, and the doctor monitored my HCG (pregnancy hormone) levels to make sure the pregnancy was ending. But after four weeks my HCG levels started to rise again. The first thought was that this was a new pregnancy, but a sonogram showed it was still the ectopic pregnancy that was starting to grow again. If left alone, the embryo could grow and cause permanent damage to my reproductive organs. The doctors could not locate where the embryo had implanted, so they could not do surgery to remove it. Instead I was given a shot of methotrexate, a chemotherapy drug, to terminate the pregnancy. This was very difficult for me, and I had numerous sonograms to ensure the doctor's diagnosis was correct. After this loss I started attending the M.E.N.D. group for additional support.

For the next three months the doctor advised us not to get pregnant, as he wanted my body to be completely rid of all traces of the chemotherapy drug. So I stopped the fertility drugs. During this time the doctor also wanted me to have a surgical procedure that scrapes the lining of the uterus. The same week that the surgery was scheduled we got a call that my father-in-law was dying. My husband flew out of town to be by his father's side. We agreed that I should go ahead with the planned surgery and I would join my husband afterwards. Two days before the surgery the hospital did a routine blood pregnancy test that was negative. My surgery was set and I made arrangements for a friend to take me to the hospital. But the day before the surgery my husband called and said hospice did not expect his father to make it through the night. My husband told me not to come and to stay and have my surgery. I was torn between wanting to be there for my husband and wanting to have my surgery so we could start trying for a baby again. After I spoke with him on the phone I prayed to God and my answer was clear. The surgery could wait but my husband needed me now. Without telling him, I cancelled the surgery and caught the next flight out.

I was there with my husband as his father left this world the next morning, the same morning I had been scheduled for surgery. We buried his father and returned home. By now I was three days late on my cycle, but with a negative blood test the week before I figured it was the stress of the funeral. I called my nurse and she advised me to come in for a second pregnancy test. Wow, what a surprise I received. A positive pregnancy test! How could this be? I had a negative blood test the week before? The doctors and nurse could not explain it. But we all realized that if I had not cancelled that surgical procedure it would have terminated the pregnancy. I was tingly all over and thanked God for his guidance and answering my prayers.

After a difficult pregnancy, our miracle baby girl was born six weeks premature. She spent two weeks in the neo-natal intensive care unit before we brought her home. She is now a healthy three-year-old, and we are truly blessed to have her in our life. I know not all couples experiencing infertility will end up with a miracle baby like we did. But I know God has a wonderful plan for each of us. We must have faith in him and let his plan unfold.

*By Kathryn Padilla
In memory of Baby Padilla I, miscarried on September 19, 1996 at 9 ½ weeks and
Baby Padilla II, lost on April 8, 1997 due to ectopic pregnancy and
In honor of LeeAnne Marie born February 22, 1998*

"My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever." Psalm 73:26

When a baby dies, or when a pregnancy just won't happen, we often look for someone to blame. Usually, we find ourselves looking in the mirror, asking some pretty hard questions.

"What could I have done to change things? If I had made different choices, would I be holding a baby now?"

We've all been there. I've heard lots of people give lots of different "if only"s.



Editor's Corner

- If only I hadn't eaten that.
- If only I hadn't done that exercise.
- If only I had prayed more.
- If only I hadn't taken the pregnancy for granted.
- If only I had been more thankful for what I had.
- If only I had gone to the doctor earlier.
- If only I hadn't put myself under so much stress.
- If only I hadn't complained about how much time kids take.
- If only, if only, if only.

You probably said a couple of these, and you may have even come up with a few more. My big "if only" was my regret that I didn't realize my baby's frantic movements two days before the sonogram were really a sign that something was wrong.

The truth is, in most cases, nothing we could have done would have stopped the awful event from happening, or make a wonderful one occur. No diet changes, no change of heart about the pregnancy, maybe not even more prayers. Don't get me wrong - I know in my heart that God hears our prayers, but I also believe He sometimes answers "no." His plan for us is eternal and involves things that may hurt now but will eventually bring a forever kind of joy instead of the temporary joy our requests seek (more on that in a couple of paragraphs).

It's hard to face the fact that sometimes things happen that we can't control. Some sicknesses can't be cured. Some injuries don't heal. Some babies die, no matter how hard we try to stop that from happening. And sometimes, new babies don't come afterward. Our "heart and flesh may fail." That's a fact of life.

So, if we can't blame ourselves, who can we blame?

How about the One who gave us those hearts and flesh? Now, don't shy away from this - hear me out. If we're going to give God the credit for all the good things in our lives, doesn't it only make sense to think that He knows about the bad things, too? I'm not saying God sends catastrophes down on us. Bad things happen in a sinful world. However, He allows some of those bad things to happen to good people, to people who love Him and try to live for Him.

Now, before you tell everybody I said it's okay to blame God for bad things, let me go a little further. Yes, God allows pain to reach us, His children, the Ones He loved enough to watch His own Son die. Why would a loving God do something like that?

Because He DOES love us, enough to hurt with us as we grow. Every pain we feel, He feels. It must be hard for Him to watch His children cry, yet He does it so that we can draw closer to Him and one day see through eyes that will never again be dimmed by tears. Earth is only a preparation for heaven, and the lessons we learn here bring us a taste of what is to come. Sometimes, through suffering, God changes our perspective so that we can see a little more clearly pieces of His eternal plan for us, not just the plan He has for us here on earth.

For example, my son's death has almost removed this hazy film through which I used to view life. Heaven is a lot clearer to me now, a lot more real, and the extreme sacrifice God made for me through His Son's death is more meaningful, because I know the pain involved in losing a son. I used to sing about how much God loves me, but now I feel it in my bones, and I don't know that I would have gained this perspective any way other than through the death of my own child.

Think about a mother watching her toddler learn to walk. There are a lot of falls before the child finally catches on, but the mother knows that the only way the child is going to be free to move where he wants to go is to let him learn. She sits and suffers as her child receives bumps and bruises, all for the sake of the child. She knows that, in the end, the bumps and bruises will be worth it.

We're learning to walk, the right way, the way God intends us to walk - with Him. Right now we're in the "bumps and bruises" stage. Hang in there through the spills. Walking with Him will be worth it.

One more short thought: I was once told by a trusted counselor that sometimes, if we really feel angry that God is allowing us to endure this pain (and be honest with yourself about this), it might not be a bad idea to forgive him. I know, He doesn't make mistakes, but if we feel anger toward Him, we need to deal with it. We need to tell Him about it and "forgive" Him in our hearts so that we can move on. If this is where you find yourself today, I urge you to talk to Him about it.

May God bless you all!

Sharlene Libby

Walk to Remember T-shirt Order Form

Send your order to the address on the back of this page. Deadline is October 1.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City : _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail address: _____

Monogram: (ex. Celia Jones Remembering Jason Alexander)

Please Circle Size: Adult L XL XXL

Price per T-shirt: \$25.00 with monogram \$15.00 without monogram

Sales Tax: \$ 2.06 per monogrammed shirt, \$ 1.24 per shirt without monogram

Check here if you will be picking up your t-shirt: _____

Check here if you would like your t-shirt shipped to you: _____

(Remember to include the \$3.00 charge for shipping and handling.)

Make checks payable to M.E.N.D.

of shirts _____ x \$25.00 = _____

of shirts _____ x \$15.00 = _____

Sales Tax (7.25%) = _____

Postage and Handling = _____

Total \$ _____

M.E.N.D. is a Christian nonprofit corporation whose purpose is to reach out to those who have lost a child to miscarriage, stillbirth or infant death and offer a way to share experiences and information through monthly meetings, this newsletter, and our web site.

For inquiries, subscription requests, deletions, and submissions to the newsletter, contact us at
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Coppell, TX 75019
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1-888-695-M.E.N.D.
Fax (972) 459-2396
E-Mail: Rebekah@mend.org,
Sharlene@mend.org

Donations make the printing and distribution of this newsletter possible.

Your tax-deductible contributions are greatly appreciated and should be sent to:

M.E.N.D.
P.O. Box 1007
Coppell, TX 75019.

If your gift is made in memory of a baby, please include that baby's name (if named), date of birth and/or date of death, the parents' names, and the name of the benefactor. You may also include the cause of death (if known).

Visit our web site at:
<http://www.mend.org>

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