

For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given,
and the government will be on His shoulders.

And He will be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

-Isaiah 9:6 NIV

This Christmas season, please consider a gift of \$500, \$250, \$100 or any amount to help us continue planting seeds of change in lives of individuals like Dinah. Your dedication is an integral part of our ministry and your gift is a beautiful reflection of God's gift of a Wonderful Counselor.



For HIS Unborn,

Leslee Unruh



A Wonderful Unknown

Written By A Friend of Alpha Center

When the test confirmed that your life had begun
I felt scared, overwhelmed and alone.
So many unknowns I couldn't see my way through,
Like how would I ever give you a home?

I'd been told that I was the one who could choose
To end what had barely begun.
But the quietest whisper nudged me to have faith
To face the unknowns, one by one.

I'm sorry my initial reaction wasn't pure joy;
I didn't know how I'd provide all you'd need.
My life to this point had been all about me,
Would I be able to help you thrive and succeed?

But what I know now and I didn't know then,
Is how wonderful unknowns can be.
Like, how unexpectedly special those moments are
As I study your face and you study me.

The way your smile took my breath away surprised me, too,
And how much I could love you through all of my fear.
Now the mountains we faced that seemed impossible at first
Have become milestones we celebrate and hold dear.

You're precious, my child, you light up my life
And I'm thankful for choosing you over me.
For you are so much more than I ever expected
An unplanned, yet perfect blessing to receive.

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Wonderful
COUNSELOR
MIGHTY GOD
EVERLASTING
FATHER
PRINCE OF
PEACE



At sixteen, I was your stereotypical rebellious child. Drinking, drugs, sex, smoking, etc. I became pregnant and was scared to death. How would my parents react? What would my future look like now? Then I thought, what if nothing had to change? What if I just got rid of it and moved on with my life? I secretly planned to get an abortion because I didn't want my life to change.

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My aunt knew I was pregnant and encouraged me to turn to Alpha Center for support. Not wanting to disappoint her, I reluctantly decided to visit Alpha Center, but still had the plan to get rid of this unknown thing inside me. However, as soon as I walked in, I felt something warming my heart. Smiling women welcomed me and talked with such compassion and love. In that moment, I felt like God was right there too, nudging me.

Alpha Baby
BENTLEY



I began watching pregnancy videos at Alpha Center during my weekly *Earn While You Learn* appointments after school. During this time, I started to question my thoughts of abortion. Then I saw the one video I needed to see the most: how conception happens. I saw how this tiny egg transformed into a baby. That's when I knew that this thing inside me wasn't unknown; it was a child with a beating heart, and I couldn't be the one to stop it. I went home and cried with guilt for having even thought of hurting this innocent life.

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With this new perspective of my situation, I also began weekly *Life Skills Classes*, which were life-changing because I learned so many practical tips about caring for my newborn. It was through those classes that I found Alpha Center's greatest blessing to me - my mentor mom. She helped me come back to Jesus. She prayed for me after every session and I always felt lifted up. I began praying on my own because I didn't want that feeling to go away and I needed God in my life.

I was once a lost, rebellious child, not wanting to be a parent and scared about my future. Now, I am a changed person. I have a relationship with Jesus. I married a wonderful man who has a true heart for God. I am a mother to my Alpha Baby Bentley, two other beautiful children and another one on the way. During this Christmas season, I am especially grateful for the seeds of change planted in me at Alpha Center. Without your partnership through gifts to Alpha Center, I never would have experienced so many of God's perfect blessings.

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