



GROWING BRANCHES

Update From *New Beginnings* - A Home for Mothers
Denver, Colorado

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NOW WHAT?

By Rev. Gary Schult

"I'm what...?" "No, not now!" "Are you sure...could the test be wrong?" What goes through the mind of an unmarried woman who made a bad decision and now faces the consequence of that decision – pregnancy. It is often a lonely time, when the feelings of banishment and abandonment are there, whether real or imagined. There are an endless number of stories throughout the history of the world. Who can forget David and Bathsheba? A chosen ruler of God's people, a "man after God's own heart" and yet he

stumbled and fell to the temptation of his own fleshly lusts. The reader of 2 Samuel 11 is often appalled at how far into the depths of evil David fell while trying to solve his predicament. Murder and deception were not beyond his imagination. Surely, when Bathsheba told him the news – "I'm pregnant" – the question arose for him: "Now what?" Today millions of women in the same situation – pregnant outside of the bonds of marriage – face the same question: "Now what?" Answerless questions swirl through their hearts and minds: "How can I afford this?" "Who will help me?" "Can I manage caring for a baby as a single mother, without a spouse?"



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"Am I old enough to care for a baby?" "Am I too old to safely give birth to a baby?" It is often at this time, with those questions overwhelming their minds, that a woman appears at the doorstep of *New Beginnings*. These mothers have wrestled with each of those questions and

more. They have been encouraged, advised, even threatened to have an abortion. For each of them abortion was not the answer to that question, "Now what?" Instead they knew that what was growing within them was life – God's gift of life. But the uncertainties are still there – "Now what?" "Can I...?" "Will we...?"

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Oh my, what can I tell you about me? My name is "Trinity." I'm just three months old. Me and Mommy live at a place called *New Beginnings*. It's okay, but I really think there has to be some more attention given to me. Hey, I had a tuff start. Mommy put stuff in her body. It could have really hurt me when I was inside her. But, it didn't. She stopped it all in time. Still it was scary. When I was born not all my parts were workin' right. Yup, I was in a special room (Mommy calls it a "NIC-U") for several days to fix me up. I really worried Mommy. Get used to it, Mom! We're in this for the long haul!

Well, Mommy's faced all the tuff stuff even before I came along. She says my Daddy and her lived in cheap places, always moving. That's 'cause when he got money, he spent it on what she calls "adikshuns" instead of food and a good home. Mommy was really sick when God put me inside her. Livin' in places with microwaves for a kitch'n, livin' outa pack bags...it really made her sad. The stuff she put in her body made her really sick, so that's when I came along need'n good food, she got really weak.

I guess it wasn't so neat either with her mommy and daddy. They hurt bad and were real sad too. 'Cause they hurted, they couldn't let us stay with them. But they didn't let us starve or stay on the streets either. That's when we found *New Beginnings*. Now we go to G'ma and G'mpa's every week...boy, do they love me. And 'cause they love us so much, they help us now a lot. But Mommy and I have a nice place to live. She's got a good place to work now, so we can really have our own place some day. (But Mommy

keeps tell'n everyone we're never leavin' *New Beginnings*.) She's also gonna go to school, maybe before I do, to learn how to help people that have the same thing she calls "adikshuns" like she had. She'll be real good at that.

Every night Mommy reads to me from a book she calls the "Bible." Those stories are real good. They tell me how much God loves me 'n Mommy. Hey, did I tell you I got baptized by Jesus? Yup, He took away what Mommy calls 'sin.' That's my

naughty stuff. She says I still do that when I get mad, an' I scream a lot and look really angry. I can look really angry sometimes. Then Mommy puts me down and says I gotta stay there until I can be nice. It doesn't take long, 'cause I don't like it when Mom's not holdin' me. We talk a lot. You can tell. We even talk to God together.

Back when I was inside Mommy I used to kick and wiggle around a lot. She says that at those times she always wished there was someone to share that happy-time with. Even now, when I look all around and learn about the new world I'm in, if only there was someone to share me with – I guess she means a daddy who

loves us and wants to have fun with us too. But now that we're at *New Beginnings* we got family and friends who love us and will always help us. We're headed in a new direction, and a new beginning.





GROWING BRANCHES



"Now What?"

Continued from page 1

When asked about their concerns at the time they first found out they were pregnant, this is what they shared...

Concerning their financial status...

"I was scared I wouldn't have enough money to support my child." "Will I be a good mother? I didn't have the money nor education to take care of a baby..." "How could I keep a roof over his head, daycare, diapers, baby food, etc.?" "My grandma sent me \$10 and I had to buy prenatal vitamins ...I needed to find a job but how? I was only 16 and had to go to school." Fewer replied: "I didn't have any fears. I was happy. I didn't worry about money because we both worked."



The ministry of Christian Life Resources

is celebrating 25 years of service.

As part of its ministry CLR opened the doors to *New Beginnings* in 1993 and has pledged to provide administration and funding assistance to this vital ministry.

Help us help *New Beginnings* by participating in the *Change for Life* program.

This program provides a unique opportunity for every member of a congregation to provide a daily gift to the vital *New Beginnings* ministry. The loose change that is placed in a *Change for Life* coin box will make a large impact in the lives of a young mother and her child.

To learn more go to:

www.HelpNewBeginnings.com

or call

1-800-729-9535



Concerning health...

"My lifestyle was not conducive to pregnancy...I drank and did drugs and didn't eat or sleep much." "I was worried because I did drugs while pregnant but I got clean and the pregnancy was perfect."

Concerning family...

"Nobody at first jumped on the band wagon, but as they saw that I cared, they began to care..." "I lied to my Mom. I then had to come out and tell the truth. My mom was shamed in front of the family." "I wasn't talking to my family at the time. I moved away. No one knew I was pregnant 'til I was 7 months along." And yet for some families,

"...all of my family were happy, nobody was disappointed at all." Often the father is either in prison, or simply is not there for his child. A few have fathers who keep in touch and help out.

Thankfully, for some the conclusion is there that: "My regrets are deep. I wish I would have done things the way God intended because my children would have had a whole family and I would have had a husband that loved me, helped me. It's hard when you're all alone." "It's hard raising a baby, especially when you're a single, struggle'n mother. I have to play both parents. But I don't regret my son. He's my unplanned blessing who saved my life."

At *New Beginnings* we pray that each mother can be helped to answer those questions positively,, and reach the same conclusion concerning her and her child as this mother wrote: "I know that God is with me and is going to get me through all my obstacles...God will take care of me and my baby..." That confidence is possible only because of God's gracious love in our risen Savior, Jesus, who has given us the victory over all that would destroy us! In Him we have an answer to the question, "Now what?"



*Rev. Gary and
Janice Schult,
House Parents*



**Learn more about
New Beginnings -
A Home for Mothers
at**

www.HomeforMothers.com



New Beginnings

A Ministry Sponsored by Christian Life Resources

A Home for Mothers

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Most Needed Items at *New Beginnings*

- Flashlights
- Donations toward ceiling fans and tower fans
- Donations toward new sofas
- Donations toward baby monitors
- Baby medications
(over-the-counter e.g. Orajel, Baby Motrin, Baby Tylenol, etc.)



Four times a year you receive *Growing Branches*. Four times a year it contains a "Needs" list. Four times a year it includes an envelope for your monetary gift of support. Four times a year we seek your support through this periodical. Please consider helping us with your gifts to *New Beginnings*.

New Beginnings appreciates your prayers to our gracious God on our behalf. We also appreciate your gifts. Would you consider helping us out?

Yes, I (we) would like to make a contribution to help **New Beginnings**:

☐ other \$ _____ ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25

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Mail to: **New Beginnings - A Home for Mothers**
P.O. Box 423
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New Beginnings - A Home for Mothers is a Christ-centered home for single mothers and is affiliated with Christian Life Resources, Inc. The home has been serving residents since 1993. It is supported entirely by the generous support and prayers of those who are committed to sharing Christ and reflecting His sacrificial love.

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