Chastity Duque

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English 1101

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Trust

My husband and I have been married for nine years. I have a daughter from a previous marriage and he has two sons and a daughter. Moving in together, was a big adjustment for all of us, but we soon settled into a good family routine together. We lived a very busy life.

Drew and I talked on and off about having a baby together, but, for me, the time never seemed right. I would always tell him, “Not now! Maybe when the kids are a little older.” I would tell myself, “God, has already blessed us with beautiful children; what more could we ask for?” I wanted another child, but it never seemed possible with all the responsibilities and expenses we had. I was also a little scared, because I had serious afterbirth complications with my daughter. As the kids got older, Drew would mention it from time to time, but I would still say, “Maybe we will try later.” I wanted another baby so much, but all those worries would always cloud my thinking. As time went by, we didn’t talk about it much anymore.

On Labor Day in the year 2014, we went to the lake with some good friends of ours. Our friend Kayla asked if we were planning on having more kids. She said she and her husband were trying to have another baby. She was joking around and said, “You need to have one too so they can grow up together.” I laughed and told her that we were done and that four was enough for us. Later that night, just to be cautious, I took a pregnancy test before starting back on my birth control pills, just to be sure I was not pregnant. I had quit taking the pills a few months prior because I was having severe leg pain and wanted to make sure the pills were not the cause. Drew and I were very “careful,” but I just wanted to be sure. I took the test and much to my surprise, it was positive. I felt lightheaded and literally almost fainted. Once I collected myself, I felt so much joy and excitement. I screamed for Drew; like me, he was in shock but he was so happy.

The beginning of my pregnancy was a little scary. Early on, I started to bleed a little, so the doctor ordered blood work to check the hormone levels in my blood. He told me, that the numbers were not increasing as much as they like and miscarriage was a possibility. He also said that only time would tell. It was a hard wait, but soon I started having horrible morning sickness, which I was told was a good sign because the hormone levels can cause this. Soon after, I went in for a checkup and could hear a tiny little heartbeat, it was a fascinating sound. I felt so much happiness and relief. When I was two months along, I had to go for a routine checkup and blood work. A week or so later, I received a phone call telling me that my blood work showed a high chance that the baby could be born with Down Syndrome. This news horrified me, not the fact of the Down Syndrome, but the fact of some of the serious complications, that can come along with it such as heart defects.

After two long months, I had an appointment with a specialist in Macon to see if the baby, in fact, had any birth defects. I first went in a room to have a lengthy sonogram that took many measurements, which soon showed the baby was a girl! The tiny life inside of me that I already loved so much was a girl! After the ultrasound and a lot of blood work, the doctor told me he would call me within ten days with the results.

The days were so hard. I was scared each time the phone rang. During this time, we educated ourselves on Down Syndrome so we, as parents, would be prepared to give her the best treatment possible. I just put all my faith in God and I prayed to him, “God, whatever is your will, let it be done.” One Sunday at church the song “Oceans” by Hillsong was played. The lyrics really inspired me, “Spirit, lead me where my trust is without borders.” I felt so much peace by this. I realized that, no matter what the outcome that I should trust in my Lord. Every day, I sang those lyrics to myself, and I worried less. No matter what, my sweet girl would be so loved and would get the care she needed.

Finally, we received the results; the blood work showed it was 99.9 percent likely that she was a healthy baby girl. On May 1, 2015, I gave birth to a healthy, beautiful baby girl, who has brought so much joy and fun to our lives. I learned from all this, that life is full of surprises. One should never say never, and most importantly, one should always put their trust in God.