



AURORA'S STORY

"Aurora" drove two hours to the Planned Parenthood in Columbia for an abortion with a lot weighing on her mind: a broken foot putting her out of work, bills stacking up, care of a 5-month-old and a 3-year-old, very little family support, a series of bad relationships, and aching loneliness from isolation.

It was her second abortion attempt.

The first time she'd learned she was expecting twins which had changed her mind. With another month to think it over, however, she came back to her original thoughts about this pregnancy - she had no idea how she could do it and care for the other two at home.

The day of the appointment her boyfriend "Lonny," the twins' father, didn't plan to go with her but then changed his mind at the last minute. Driving up to the facility she noticed a woman in a vest smiling and waving and asked her boyfriend to pull over so they could stop and get directions. Quickly, they realized this woman was not with Planned Parenthood. Instead, she was offering hope, help, and options and explaining the horrors of abortion.

Aurora felt so ashamed. At the end of the conversation "Shelly," our sidewalk counselor, asked if she could get her phone number to send more information. Aurora gave it, but secretly planned to block her number.

While parked at the facility waiting for their appointment, Lonny, emboldened by what Shelly said, begged Aurora not to have the abortion. Aurora went inside anyway but was suddenly irresolute. Breaking down sobbing, she texted a couple family members looking for some sort of confirmation of what to do. No one responded.

Finally, she texted Shelly. Shelly wrote back immediately pleading with her to come out. Fervently praying at the driveway nearest the doorway, Shelly waited. At last, Aurora surrendered. "I can't do this," she determined, "I have to get my money back and go straight to Ms. Shelly." She did just that! As they hugged and cried together, Shelly exclaimed "thank you God for saving all three of them!"

Providentially, the pregnancy center was able to immediately meet with Aurora and Lonny for an ultrasound and consultation. Afterwards, they went to lunch with Shelly and another AMOH staff member.

For almost three hours, Aurora unburdened her heart admitting, "I've not talked that much to anyone in a long while!" As a young believer, they encouraged her to get back into God's Word and a church and forsake the sinful path she'd been on to pursue Christ. She asked for accountability and help. In God's kindness, before she drove home AMOH was able to connect her with another believer and a pro-life organization where she lives for discipleship and practical assistance. Driving home she texted: "I truly believe in divine intervention and this was maybe just what I've needed...I will forever be grateful...You ladies are truly what I've been praying for and I'm excited to see my new growth in Christ."

Please pray for her spiritual growth and the Lord's strength and help - life is still overwhelming! Pray also for Lonny. Although not a believer yet, he heard the gospel.