

MIRACLE AT HEMET HOSPITAL: BABY RESURRECTED *By Peter Edwards*

Manuel and Maria Hernandez, a couple at our church, New Life Open Bible Church, were happily married, raising three teens, Manuel III, Danny, and Cherissa, when, unexpectedly, Maria became pregnant.

The couple embraced the pregnancy as a miracle. It had been 14 years since their last child, Cherissa, had been born and the couple had suffered a miscarriage the year before because of Maria's diabetes. In the early hours of November 27 Maria went into labor.

They arrived at the hospital at approximately 4:45 a.m. Over 14 hours of labor had passed when it became apparent both mom and baby were having trouble. Manuel, in the delivery room with Cherissa, saw concerned looks in the eyes of the doctor and nurses, so he and Cherissa began to pray. A crash team was assembled.

"I didn't want to alarm Maria," Manuel said, "so I started worshipping our Lord. Since God inhabits our praises I knew He would be with us."

At 2:38 p.m. Siara Monique was born weighing nine pounds, two ounces. As the baby emerged Manuel noticed the cord tangled around her neck. Her skin was blue. With no pulse, no respiration, no reflexes, and no muscle tone, she received an Apgar score of 0.

"As the doctors and nurses were putting their training and experience to work in the fight for our daughter's survival so were we," says Manuel. "Maria, Cherissa, and I prayed in the Spirit, trusting God for His perfect will. We declared the devil a liar and spoke life to Siara."

Manuel phoned Manuel III and asked him to pray, knowing he would call others. Within minutes people across the country were going to God on behalf of Siara. After 21 minutes of heroic effort (longer than normal), the doctor declared Siara dead. Nurses wept as they left the room.

"We were in no way about to concede defeat," says Manuel. "I felt impressed by the Lord to walk slowly over to the baby, so as not to alarm the medical personnel."

He thought, "God, You have never failed me and I know You won't start now." Manuel put his hands over his lifeless baby and reminded God that the breath of life comes from Him. Then he said, "God, so that everyone here will know You are alive and love Your children, I say, Siara come forth! It was nothing for you to raise Lazarus from the dead."



Siara Monique Hernandez

One of the nurses stepped in and said, "Let's take her to Mommy." She wrapped the limp body in a blanket and carried her to Maria, who cradled the infant in her arms and reminded her she had been moving in her womb a short time before. "Come on, Mija, wake up!" she said. (Mija means "my daughter.")

Suddenly Maria noticed Siara's chest moving; she was turning pink. Maria called for a nurse or doctor. They said it was just the oxygen from their attempts to revive her being

expelled, but Maria would not give up. The doctor, hoping to comfort her, embraced Mom and baby. He then exclaimed, "I feel something!" He listened to Siara's chest with his stethoscope. "I've got a heartbeat!" he called out.

They took Siara to the nursery for continued treatment. When I arrived at the hospital a few moments later, the medical personnel stepped out of the way and allowed me to lay hands on Siara and pray. Then I joined the parents, who were still in the delivery room where we continued to pray and worship. The head of nursing services shuttled back and forth between the nursery and the delivery room, encouraging us to continue praying as she gave us updates. "If God can raise old, stinky Lazarus, He can raise this baby," she said. Manuel and Maria, sensing God's presence, were enveloped with an amazing peace.

Medical personnel air evacuated Siara to the neonatal ICU at Loma Linda Children's Hospital for monitoring, positive she would need a lot of care after such a traumatic birth. They were wrong. She suffered some seizures at first, but they have stopped.

On December 8, 2006, Siara came home from the hospital. The medical community is amazed at her survival and how well she continues to do. They monitor her closely, struggling to grasp the fact that Siara Monique Hernandez was not revived. She was resurrected.



Peter Edwards is the senior pastor of New Life Open Bible Church in San Jacinto, California. He says, "We are all praising the Lord for this miracle of resurrection." Manuel Hernandez, who is a regular participant in the annual MOVE construction trips, wants to thank all of his MOVE friends and especially his church family at New Life Open Bible Church for the tremendous amount of prayer during this time.

