



KELANI, OUR MIRACLE BABY SON IS 1 IN 5.8 MILLION!

At twenty-three weeks' gestation, Paul and I received unexpected news that our baby son had a one-chamber heart (instead of four chambers) with arteries missing, blocked or in the wrong places. He had bleeding within his mal-rotated intestines. There was a high chance of him having no spleen, or just several non-functioning ones, which would mean that healing after major surgery would be compromised.

There was also a one-in-two chance of Down's syndrome, and a one-in-four chance of another fatal chromosomal abnormality which would cause him to die within a year after birth once his body had slowly deteriorated.

Abortion was suggested to us as our best option - which we refused. We were quietly confident that the Lord would perform healing miracles in his life. Upon opting to continue with the pregnancy we were told to expect to deliver a blue baby, and the risks involved were outlined.

Our family and friends started praying with us that night. At birth, our son Kelani was pink and plump and weighed 3.4 kg (7 pound 8 ounces).

Scans and tests showed:

- A one-chamber heart with arteries missing, blocked or in the wrong places
- NO evidence of bleeding in his intestines
- A normal functioning spleen WAS present!
- He was FREE of Down's syndrome and the other chromosomal abnormality

As word spread about our little boy, the brothers and sisters in Adelaide and other assemblies began to pray and fast for some more miracles to be seen. The specialists all agreed someone had their hand on our baby as everything just went right for him.

At 3 days of age Kelani flew to Melbourne for open-heart surgery. He had a stent placed in his one-chamber heart and Kelani was home feeding well and gaining weight within a couple of weeks. This was something they assured us would never happen.

At 6 months of age Kelani flew to Melbourne again for an eighteen hour open-heart surgery to create a second chamber in his heart. This surgery had a possible 65% risk of death. Further surgery would be required at four to eight years of age, and he would never be able to play sport as he would be too breathless. A heart transplant would be required later in life and his life expectancy would be only forty to forty-five years.

We continued to pray for more miracles and knew without a doubt that the Lord was watching over us and would provide. Prior to surgery x-rays, ECG, echocardiogram, blood and urine tests showed Kelani had grown some extra cardiac tissue and NOW HAD 2 CHAMBERS IN HIS HEART!

The cardiac surgeon said that it was, in fact, a miracle and we should continue doing whatever we had been doing. New surgery was planned that week for only six hours' duration, with just a 1% risk of death. Kelani will be more capable at sport and will require much more activity than normal to become breathless.

His life expectancy will now be seventy-plus years! I cannot explain to you the appreciation I have for being in a fellowship where people genuinely care this much for one another. Your prayers and support have meant more to us than you will ever know. These things that have happened to Kelani can ONLY be explained as miraculous! Praise the Lord!

PAUL AND AIMEE • ADELAIDE

