

# PURE RELIGION

## A Joyous Occasion

*Cecilia Dodzi is the Midwifery Officer at the Ridge Regional Hospital in Accra, Ghana. In the following account Cecilia relates how she used the neonatal resuscitation techniques she learned to save a baby's life.*

I am very glad I had the opportunity to participate in the Helping Babies Breathe resuscitation workshop held in Accra, Ghana.

I have worked in a village for several years and have delivered many still births. A few months ago I was transferred to Ridge Regional Hospital where I attended a newborn resuscitation program.

A few weeks later a woman came in with a complicated delivery. She was having twins, but the second baby did not deliver after the first one. It was decided to give her a Cesarean section. My client was sent to the surgical theater while I was preparing my equipment for resuscitation.

Suddenly I was called, "Midwife! Your client is pushing."



This woman had delivered a severely asphyxiated baby. I quickly rushed the baby to the resuscitation table. My colleagues asked me why I would send the baby for resuscitation when there was no sign of life, but I continued to resuscitate until the baby sneezed and at last cried. They all rushed to me to see the baby.

I called the intensive care unit to come and see the baby while it was on oxygen. When the doctor came he ordered the baby to the neonatal intensive care unit. The following day, when I visited the baby with some of the theater staff, they were all surprised to see the baby doing well. When the baby was discharged to go home, it was a joyous occasion.

I then thought of the past deliveries in the village, and I cried as I thought, "If I had this experience earlier, some of my still births would have lived."

I want to thank the LDS Church for their love, caring, and their plan for the world as a whole.



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