

[Disclaimer: I was not commissioned by any company or other organization to write these samples. But they provide you with exemplars of the excellent quality of writing I will provide for you when we are working together.]

## Mary Chose Life!

Dear Pro-Life Friend,

Mary\* was terrified!

She'd driven to a spot near the downtown clinic in central Des Moines and parked. Now she sat and stared blankly through her car's front window.

*Just get it done*, her ex-boyfriend had told her woodenly as he handed her several hundred dollars in cash.

*It's the only way*, her taut-faced parents had said.

That didn't change how scared she was!

She'd never done anything like this before. But in all her 17 years, she'd never been in a predicament like this before.

The clinic stood two buildings away: tall and foreboding, like a faceless giant. Its sweeping front doors waiting.

For her.

What else could she do?

Trembling, she opened the door and got out. She made her way to the sidewalk and began the lonely trek toward that front door, her eyes on the ground. She stopped.

*This is wrong!* came a voice in her head.

*Be quiet!* she told it. *There's no other option!*

She started walking again.

But then she thought suddenly of the tiny life growing inside her, these past two months.

*If that tiny life had a voice, wouldn't he or she want to live???*

Her walking slowed once again.

"Hello?" A male voice. Where had it come from? She looked around.

He sat on a park bench between the two buildings about ten feet away, a well-dressed fellow who looked to be about 20, hands folded across his belt.

"I'm Jim\*," he said softly. "What's your name?"

"M— Mary," she stammered.

"Can I help you, Mary?"

There was nothing threatening in his voice. If anything, just the opposite. Warmth seemed to flow from him. His eyes were steady, and she wanted to trust him. "I ... I don't know," she finally said, and then blurted out, "I'm pregnant. I'm on my way to have an abortion."

The man didn't react. After a moment he asked, "Would you like to pray about it?"

“Pray?” she echoed.

He nodded. She found herself approaching the bench. “Sit here,” he said, and his hand indicated a spot near the opposite end of the bench.

She did, still studying him. He seemed so ... assured. So ... at peace.

And nonjudgmental. She liked that. All he’d asked her to do was sit and pray. “Are you ready?” he asked.

She nodded.

Jim’s head bowed and his eyes closed. Hers followed suit. She listened as he talked to God aloud. He prayed for her, then for the child growing inside her. About whatever events unknown to him had brought her here. And for the courage she’d need to choose life ... by not going into that clinic, run by Planned Parenthood.

Tears were running down her face when he finished.

She couldn’t do it! She couldn’t go in there and let some strange doctor with a scalpel take the helpless life in her womb!

Or whatever it was they did!

“What can I do?” she cried.

“There are always options,” Jim said in that same, understanding voice. He told her about crisis pregnancy counseling, about women who couldn’t get pregnant and how her newborn child could bring some other couple great joy.

He gave her a card with his name and number on it. She saw a Bible verse. The verse read, *“Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.”* Jeremiah 1:5

“You can call me any time, day or night,” Jim finished.

Mary got back in her car, drove home, and told her parents she refused to participate in taking her unborn child's life. They took it better than she expected. Then she called her soon-to-be-ex-boyfriend.

"I want my money back, then," he said coldly.

"You can have it!" she told him.

Then she called Jim. She asked him where she could go, and he told her.

The next day, she stood in front of a different building, also in downtown Des Moines.

No one sat on a park bench out front. All she saw was an unassuming sign on the front lawn. It read *Life Crisis Pregnancy Center*.

With her eyes looking forward this time instead of on the ground, she walked confidently to the front door and went inside—

She met a kind counselor named Wendy\* whose eyes lit up when she mentioned Jim. Wendy praised her for coming, then gave her brochures and other information on unplanned pregnancies, prenatal care, and adoption information.

There was a support group. Girls just like her — who had chosen life. Would she like to come to a meeting?

Seven months later, Mary gave birth to a healthy, 7-pound baby boy. The Center had arranged for him to be adopted by two loving parents.

\* \* \*

Mary's story had a happy ending. But how did that happy ending come about?

Because of our faithful members....

Wonderful people ... like *you*.

People who care ... like *you*.

Your financial gifts help us organize and reach out. They support our visits with pastors and counselors, individuals and congregations, community groups and leaders.

Your gifts ensure that at least *some* of the time, when a Mary drives to a Planned Parenthood clinic, terrified but seeing no alternative, there's a Jim outside, able to reach her in time. To pray with her, and encourage her to choose life.

And a Wendy inside a supportive clinic, to give her information and support.

*Your gifts have saved a lot of unborn lives.*

But it's never enough.

For every Mary, there are many other teenager girls, and more than a few adults, who end up walking forlornly into that Planned Parenthood building.

Later, they may realize what they've done ... or they go cold inside, so as not to see.

Mary chose life because she learned her options. She learned them from us, from those we've trained ... men like Jim and women like Wendy.

We cannot teach the many Mary's to come without your help.

Our mission is to continue reaching out to churches and into communities with a message of the preciousness of life.

We've achieved successes. Support for Planned Parenthood has dropped. The media reported recently that their revenue stream has gone down by \$4 million over the past year.

But our resources are never enough. Even when favorable legislation comes our way, as it sometimes does, those promoting abortion still have the power of mass media behind them. They have Hollywood. And they have political figures whose voices carry a lot of weight. Those who favor abortion are now promoting medical abortions using risky drugs and mail-order abortion pills, to be taken without medical supervision!

Our efforts must counter these influences.

Pastors, youth groups, would-be counselors, expectant mothers, community leaders, and elected officials ... all must understand the horror of abortion and the holocaust it has visited upon this nation.

They must also learn of the thousands of couples, many unable to have children of their own, who would like to adopt — waiting months or years — for a child of their own. A child like Mary's.

We must continue spreading the message of the value of life — and doing what we must to ensure that needs are met!

But we can't do it without your support!

Will you please help the next Mary to come along, terrified and alone — except for that helpless life growing inside her — with your generous gift?

*Can you help us spread the message of life?*

Your *tax-deductible* contribution of \$25, \$40, \$50, \$100, or more, will enable us to continue our work and save more unborn lives.

I've told you of the Mary we reached. Your gift — and God's grace — *will help us reach the many other Mary's out there in time!*

Thank you, and God bless.

[signed]

P.S. Every year, thousands more unborn children die under abortionists' knives — or, far more easily, from simpler procedures or mail-order pills a pregnant girl or woman can swallow!

Children who will never see sunny days or feel rain on their faces.

Children who will never grow up to enjoy moonlit walks with loved ones, who will never experience the joys of achievement.

*Unless we save them!*

Please don't delay! Your tax-deductible gift of \$20, \$40, \$50, or \$100, or more, will help us train more Jim's, reach more Mary's, and support more Wendy's. Please join us on the quest for life by becoming a member of Iowa Right to Life today!

\*Not their real names.