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# Baby Boy's Miracle gives Parents reason to be Thankful

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When your child becomes ill and there's nothing you can do to make them better, it's one of the most helpless feelings in the world.

A couple from Bolivar lived through that despair when their baby boy fell sick and they were told he probably wouldn't make it.

"Bah, bah, bah"

Baby babble is music to the ears of Jenni and Daniel Bayless, who heard nothing but bad news about their son Granton for 8 months.

When he was just a few months old, Granton became very sick and was hospitalized in Kansas City. Doctors told Jenni and Daniel he had severe combined immune deficiency disorder, sometimes called bubble boy syndrome.

"He didn't have the immune system to fight off the sickness that he had"

Some victims are so vulnerable to infectious diseases they must live in a protective bubble.

Granton was on a ventilator because he couldn't breathe on his own, they gave him medicine to paralyze him so he wouldn't burn energy or oxygen. His parents couldn't hold him for two months.

"There were times I'd go to bed and cry and tell Daniel I just want to hold him"

"Jenni put her hair in his hand and rested cheek to cheek telling him all the reasons he had to live."

Thousands of people from Bolivar and other towns connected to the Bayless family tested to be bone marrow donors for Granton. But eventually an umbilical cord blood transplant was Granton's best hope. The Bayless' received the blood from a baby boy born in 2000, his cord blood was being stored in St. Louis.

Granton went through the transplant in June.


This week is the first time they are able to be under the same roof as a family in 8 months. The true meaning of Thanksgiving already filling this Bolivar home.

"A lot of things I would have taken for granted I won't now, we'll cherish every moment"

Granton gets checkups every week, his parents are encouraged with his progress. Recent tests show 86% of his white cells are from the donor.

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