

## **Family Council**

“Family: A Hub to Cheer You Up” Family Education Videos – Miracle of Life

LAM Tze-chung and His Wife

### **Mr and Mrs LAM Quick-fire Q&As**

- Mr LAM (LAM) : (More money or more time?) More time  
(Career or family?) Family  
(Wife or children?) Wife  
(Are two children enough?) Yes  
(The most blissful moment?) Now
- Mrs LAM (Christy) : (Should your husband spend time with you or with the children?)  
With the children  
(Helicopter parents or freestyle parents?) Freestyle  
(Play the good guy or the bad guy?) The bad guy  
(Husband or children?) Children  
(The thing you love most about your husband?) His ample body size

### **An unforgettable experience of giving birth to the second child**

- Christy : The most unforgettable was  
after giving birth to the baby  
I thought she couldn't be saved  
because the condition was too extreme  
a delivery too premature
- LAM : During her second pregnancy  
unfortunately, she was diagnosed with placenta accreta  
There was no space for the (fetal) growth  
because with the placenta imbedded in the uterus  
fetal development and growth were restrained  
Placenta accreta often makes it impossible for the mother to keep her  
uterus  
because (the placenta) remains attached to it  
Even after the baby is born  
the placenta will still remain attached to the uterus  
causing severe blood loss in the mother  
The doctor forewarned us that the uterus would also be removed  
At 26 weeks, the little girl couldn't wait to break away  
We called an ambulance  
My wife delivered the baby on the ambulance  
and lost a lot of blood  
(The ambulanceman) immediately wrapped such a tiny baby in a space

blanket  
Her feet were this small  
She knew not even how to breathe  
and required a high dose of growth hormone injection  
Could she survive?  
No one could help her  
and she was on her own

### **Premature birth and strong-willed struggle for recovery**

- Christy : I had a blood transfusion of 11 bags of blood  
replacing all the blood in my body once
- LAM : She regained consciousness after the extensive surgery
- Christy : I asked, "How did it go? Can our baby girl make it?"  
(The nurse said,) "I have no news about it"  
"Is my uterus still fine?"  
(The nurse said,) "It's gone"  
"That's fine"  
"Would you mind helping me ask about my baby girl's whereabouts?"  
"I want to know"  
"if she's alive or gone"
- LAM : It was the next morning when my wife woke up and saw me  
Only a 1-hour visiting session was allowed  
The first thing she asked me was
- Christy : "Where's our baby girl? Where's our baby girl?"  
"Is our daughter gone?"
- LAM : It was fairly inconvenient to talk at that time  
I said, "Our daughter's fine"
- Christy : I felt a strong urge  
to "strive for improvement"  
I had to make an extremely speedy recovery as fast as I can  
All for my baby girl  
I had my immense inner strength unleashed there and then  
Recover sooner! Recover sooner!

### **Miraculous turnaround of daughter's condition**

- LAM : We saw our baby girl getting better over time  
and a miracle unfolded gradually  
The miracle happened  
as we noticed our daughter overcoming obstacles one by one  
and growing very rapidly in size

She stayed at the NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) for 77 days in total

I remember that when 60-day old, she already weighed 5 pounds

Wow, how amazing!

Even the nurses at the hospital said she had a pretty huge reserve of strength

I could slowly put my mind at rest only two months afterwards

### **A new dimension to life having overcome adversity**

LAM : Much simpler  
I won't be wanting or insisting on many other stuff  
That isn't necessary  
Having the whole family together is already invaluable  
This is also the hardest part  
After Charmaine was born, I turned down all job offers  
For a whole year, there was no work but my family to take care of  
We witnessed her going through many follow-up medical appointments  
Finally last time  
(the doctor said,) "She really has nothing requiring special attention and there's no need to come back (to the hospital)"  
It was truly a weight off my mind  
Then I resumed my work

### **Close sibling relationship between the girl and her most caring and doting brother**

LAM : Actually our son is very understanding  
Christy : And very sensitive  
LAM : He looked forward to his younger sister coming home as well so when she was discharged he came along too  
He was also very excited  
to have someone he would call "younger sister" in the family  
Christy : It's usual for parents with two children to say that the elder often bullies the younger one  
Our son has never done so really  
He's really good  
say, he would not disturb his sister's sleep  
LAM : I think their bonding is predestined  
It's impossible to force it however hard you try  
To put a big smile on the girl's face and cheer her up are something only he's able to do  
Our home may have a lot of noise going on now

but in a warm and lively way  
It makes me miss home

### **Words from LAM to Christy**

LAM : It's good enough that she stays safe and healthy  
There's nothing else worthy (to insist on)  
Having suddenly found myself in bed alone  
without the other half by my side  
been through that feeling  
I don't want to experience it ever again  
It's good enough that you're all sleeping here

### **Words from Christy to LAM**

Christy : He's really exceptional in problem solving  
His presence gives space for my brain to rest a bit

LAM : Not a bit  
but many years

Christy : I can rest for a long time  
Having the whole family around is a strong desire in me  
This is what a home should feel