



Esther Cox

Louisiana, USA



It was just another day of flooding after heavy rains hit southern Louisiana. But when Esther Cox's two-year-old son, Matthew, fell into the deep, swift current of a nearby ditch, it became the worst day of her life. By the time Esther's husband, George, found Matthew, he had been in the water for 15 minutes.

LESLIE NILSSON, PHOTOGRAPHER

They call Matthew's condition "near drowning with hypoxia," which means brain damage from lack of oxygen. It was the worst day of my life, but Heavenly Father gave him back to me. He's still my baby. I've been taking care of him for 20 years. We have our ups and downs, but he's a blessing. He's great. And Heavenly Father has helped me through it all.

There's no love like the love from a person with special needs. We love each other very much. We have a very special bond. God blesses me. He really does.

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See more about Esther's journey of faith, including additional photos, in the digital version of this article in the Gospel Library app or at ChurchofJesusChrist.org/go/E2206.

Learn about resources for families of those with special needs at ChurchofJesusChrist.org/go/E2207.