

# Bulgaria Family Testimony

## The Grant Family

Our Bulgarian adoption process was 15 months—from first seeing Lucas’ picture on the Wait List to landing in the United States with him—but it began with the Holy Spirit moving in our hearts. What seemed crazy and impractical at first became a lesson in obedience as we listened and followed the plan that God had laid out for our family. Looking back on everything now, it is clear as day the way the Lord was working in our lives: growing our patience, believing in His faithful provision, seeking His will for this child and not necessarily our wishes.

It was a bumpy road to Bulgaria, wrought with many changes in our lives. When the only items you have of your potential child are a few pictures and videos, it’s easy for your imagination to run wild. During the months leading up to our first visit with Lucas, we trained ourselves to expect the worst, not sure of how severe his needs were or in what type of condition he would be living. We trusted that whatever the circumstances of Lucas’ life, God is sovereign and in control.

Adoption is such a roller coaster ride, with a lot of personal and difficult information being given to complete strangers. Throughout the entire process, Lifeline became like a part of our extended family. In particular, our Lifeline social worker felt like a sister to me (Misty), who was there to pray for us and walk us through everything. Our post-adoption support with Lifeline has been just as thorough. We have felt cared for, loved, and supported, which we understand is not the case with every agency.

It is said among adoption circles that the real journey begins when you bring your child home. We are living proof of that. As young, first-time parents, our biggest obstacle has been the transition into parenthood. For all the seminars and books and talking with other people that we did, nothing totally prepared us for parenthood—or jumping into parenthood with a four-year-old with special needs, for that matter.

God blessed us with an amazingly resilient and adaptable child. But in all the changes, a glaring light was shone on our own sinfulness. For every wonderful success we have had with Lucas and his development, a new chance for repentance of sin came for us as parents. We thank God that He has used our son to grow us closer to one another, but ultimately to the Lord. Adoption is not for the faint of heart, but it sure is worth it! We would do it all over again to see God work and for Him to be glorified.