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On clinical day #6 of my clinical experience, I was assigned to a postpartum mother and her new baby girl. The mother was comfortable with me assessing her, and she was very sweet and kind and asked me how school was going and how many years left I had. However, she did not feel comfortable with me, accessing her baby. She kept the baby in the bed with her while she slept, she fed the baby every hour and every time I came in to try to assess the baby, she would tell me to come back later. Mother had a lot of religious reasons why she may not have felt comfortable with the nursing student assessing her baby. I was still very grateful that I got the opportunity to meet the mom, see her baby to understand more about her culture and her religion. I was then assigned to another mother and baby for my couplet care. The second woman was a 26-year-old mother she just delivered a baby boy vaginally after having a cesarean section with her first child. She was a gravida 4 para 2 and was married. Her husband was there as her support system, and they were very much engaged in bonding with their son and bonding with each other. She did express to me some difficulties with breast-feeding that she also had with her first child, and as she was speaking with me, the lactation consultant came in. Her husband was diligently taking notes and making sure that he was taking in all the information as well so that he could be a better support to her during this time. Their baby boy was healthy and loved by both parents and they graciously let me do an assessment of their child.

I believe that throughout my clinical experience in maternity, I grew professionally spiritually, and personally every week. I understand that in this field of nursing timing is of the essence. I can have a plan on what I want to do but I also need to understand that my that my patients are on their own timetable, because babies have no sense of time. So not only is timing essential, but also having patience is imperative spiritually, I find myself praying for these mothers, especially ones who feel completely overwhelmed like they can't handle it when in fact, we can do all things through Christ to strengthen us and professionally, I understand how to engage with my fellow colleagues with the staff of the hospital and also with the parents when they're requiring education on some topics, and also needing their questions answered. I've learned to give babies their first baths, monitor their feedings, and perform assessment on postpartum moms and their babies. The verse that carried me through my last clinical day was, Luke 1:37, "For nothing will be impossible with God." Not only does it apply to the parents of these children that just came into the world, but for me continuing this journey of nursing school, I'm always so overwhelmed. I always think to myself, "how am I going to get through all of this work?" I just must remind myself that if God be for me, nothing or no one can be against. My mom always says to let my faith be bigger than my fear in every situation of life. By remembering where my strength comes from, I know I will be successful. It was an amazing experience being in labor and delivery. It has truly solidified the direction of my nursing career.