



# Cary Christian Center

**Dorsey Johnson, Director**

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*"No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful.  
Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace  
for those who have been trained by it."  
Hebrews 12:11, NIV*

[name]  
[address 1]  
[address 2]  
[city, ST zip]

Dear [name],

**"I thank God for every tear that I shed when I couldn't get my way and for the discipline I received from Brother Dorsey."**

I laughed to myself when I read that line from a testimony by Walter Buckner. He's a man now, a father and a grandfather. But he was a troubled boy when I knew him more than 20 years ago. I remember his tears! Like many of the children we minister to at the Center, Walter was a challenge.



But seeing how Walter turned out, I wouldn't change a thing!

In fact, Walter's is the kind of story we wish for every child who comes to the Center.

Walter started out like many children in the Delta do. Few prospects. Broken family. Little hope. Walter wasn't even in high school yet when he started doing drugs, getting drunk, and partying with people he thought were his friends. What chance did he have to break that cycle of poverty?

I knew that Walter needed a consistent, caring influence. I knew he needed love and discipline.

**And that's exactly what we gave him.**

Year after year, through our children's ministry programs, we encouraged Walter. We held him accountable. We tutored him. We exposed him to new opportunities. We corrected him. We loved him.

And gradually we began to see a difference.

The skills we taught Walter turned him into an honor student by the time he graduated from high school. The songs we sang together at the Center developed into a lifelong love of music. Walter enjoyed a 20-year career

(over)

in the military, and today he has his own home, his own car, a beautiful family, and a vibrant church life.

Those are things most Mississippi boys hardly even dream of.

Walter knows he's been blessed. He doesn't take those blessings for granted. He knows that this ministry changed his life.

**"I seriously believe without Cary Christian Center my life would have taken a different path,"** he says. "Because of this program I learned to stand on the firm foundation of Jesus Christ. Whenever I found myself going astray, I would think back to what Brother Dorsey taught me. (As a young teenager I idolized Brother Dorsey. He lived what he taught us.) So from the start of my army career until 20 years later, leaning on the Word of God has been what has kept me."

"Cary Christian Center opened my eyes to many things," Walter explains. "It helped me to **see my way out of poverty** to an upper-middle-class neighborhood where violence and drugs are the least of my concerns."

|| **But the real beauty of Walter's story is that it doesn't end with Walter.** Like anyone whose life has been changed by God, Walter wants to pass that blessing on. "Reaching out to help others in Cary is what my family and I continue to do," he says. ||

I'm sure that's why you give, too.

**You're grateful for the blessings, the opportunities, the examples, the second chances. And out of gratitude you share those blessings with others.**

In fact, I'm guessing that you choose to give through Cary Christian Center because you've seen what a **dramatic** difference a **little** investment can make! Walter's story is just one more example.

The money you enclose in the envelope we've provided turns into Bibles, after-school snacks, lunches, craft supplies, field trips, tutors, workbooks, and training programs. To someone like Walter, those basic supplies -- which cost about \$5.00 a day -- are **life-changing**.

Not only for Walter, but also for all the people Walter is reaching. Walter's daughters. Walter's granddaughter. All the people in Walter's church, where he plays keyboard and teaches Sunday School. **All these people's lives are different today because you partnered with Cary Christian Center!**

What an investment! What a legacy! For **only \$5.00 per day**.

With that kind of return, *will you invest again?*

*Dorsey*

Dorsey Johnson, Director