

Thank God for Life Center Academy

How does someone define a miracle? Is it the unexplained disappearance of cancer? Is it when a tornado strikes and a house is untouched when everything around it is destroyed? Is it the last second rescue of someone who is drowning? Is it when a hopeless drug addict gives their heart to Christ and turns their life completely around? The dictionary defines 'miracle' as an extraordinary event manifesting divine intervention in human affairs.

A miracle is the only way we know how to describe what has happened in our son's life. Let us paint the 'before picture' first. Everyday when he would come home during his first year in public high school he would have his head hung low. The joy of life had been robbed from him during his school hours. He would pick up during the weekends, but he dreaded Monday mornings knowing he had to return to school. He accepted the fact that he had to go to school, but had warned of the day he would turn sixteen. He lived for that day knowing that he could no longer be made to go to school. As parents, we tried our best to work with the school administration, but it was exhausting. We compare it to beating our heads against a wall. Problems were never solved. They were only whitewashed over.

As we walked down the hallways and by the classrooms we could see and feel what 35 years of prayer, the Bible, and God being removed from the public school system across America has brought. The Spirit of God that lives within us testified that this has become the devil's playground. We grieved inside wondering how many kids were needlessly drugged up, and thought back on the time when the school Psychologist pressured us to put our son on Ritalin just because he was too active. In reality he was just a boy trying to be a boy. We thanked God we didn't give in to their request because he grew through that stage time and is now getting wonderful grades. In a study, released in early 2008 by the Journal of the American Medical Association of school shootings and violence across this country, an eye opening fact has come out. Most of the violators had been a victim of the abuse of Ritalin or anti-depressants (Prozac or one of its relatives).

Now to paint the 'after picture'. When we walked into LCA during school time we were met with a peace in our souls. There was the feeling of respect in the air. We saw kids walking happily down the hallway. Kids who knew us stopped and gave us a hug. We saw older kids with arms around younger kids. There was no pushing and shoving. No foul language.

LCA is not perfect. The administration itself will tell you so. But there is one thing that is clear. There is a night and day difference between LCA and public school. When our son comes home from LCA he is happy. He loves his classes and his teachers. His teachers love him and try to cultivate his unique abilities. Many of the teachers are prayer warriors and lift their students up in prayer. The environment is provided for any student to get as close to God as they want to and are encouraged to do so. Our son is getting better grades and learning more than he ever has in his life. A thirst to learn has been instilled within

Being only a one income family, it was hard at first to justify the money that would be spent to send our son to Life Center Academy, especially with paying such high property taxes in New Jersey to fund the public school system. There are no school vouchers in New Jersey. Where would the money come from to send him to LCA? What do parents do?

Two things must be noted here. First, when the need arose, God provided a way for us. Second, we did not want to jeopardize our son's welfare for any amount of money. We were willing to make any sacrifices we needed to.

We challenge any parent who is wrestling with the decision of whether to send any of their children to Life Center Academy. Please know that there will be eternal dividends to reap both by your child and by you if you send them to LCA. The world our kids live in turns more and more perverse everyday. Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Our oldest child was also a miracle as a result of graduating from LCA. That child is with the Lord right now and we credit LCA with helping to point that child along the straight and narrow path that leads to life eternal. Thank you Lord for LCA!