

From: Denny Mulder

Subject: **Things Dorsey won't tell you**

Date: July 7, 2010 5:38:17 PM CDT

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

cc: other friends of Cary Christian Center

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Friends, many of you don't know me personally, but I'm writing because we share an interest in Cary Christian Center.

Since my retirement from the Bible League in 2003, my wife Sharon and I have been able to spend a good bit of time working with CCC. We've gone on volunteer trips there, we've recruited other donors to support the work, and we've personally enjoyed the hospitality of Dorsey and Irma Johnson, and Care Newhof.

As the Director of Cary Christian Center, Dorsey is personally involved in changing lives. "Breaking the cycle of poverty," as he says. Each month he writes a letter to you and others who love this ministry, to let you know what God is doing with your gifts. I would estimate he has shared over a hundred stories about men, women, teenagers, and babies whose lives have been re-directed through the work of the Center.

Dorsey loves sharing those stories. Those changed lives are the reason he goes to work every morning. He loves to see the power of God at work, and he loves to share those stories with you—because he knows how encouraging they are.

But there are some things Dorsey is not sharing with you.

I think these are important things, and I'm assuming you would want to know them. When I visited Dorsey last month, I urged him to share them. To let you know.

But he was not comfortable doing so.

He didn't want to burden you.

He knows that many of you give generously and faithfully—to the point of sacrifice. He didn't want to seem ungrateful.

But I believe you would WANT to know—because you love this ministry, this life-changing work. I believe you'd want to be aware of how uncertain their future is.

At this very moment, Cary Christian Center is \$92,000 behind budget. If trends continue (and because donor support often "goes on vacation" during the summer months), the ministry will likely be \$150,000 behind budget come fall.

This is a serious shortage.

But Dorsey and the CCC staff have committed themselves to keeping all their ministry

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programs going. They don't want to turn away a single first-time mother, a single jobless teenager, a single widow whose house needs repair.

They want to keep changing lives.

Now, that's the part that Dorsey WILL tell you. What he WON'T tell you is this: In order to keep these ministries going, even when there's no money, Dorsey and all the CCC staff are making personal sacrifices. For one thing, they are all giving back a portion of their paychecks, and have pledged to do so indefinitely.

For another, to cut costs, they're rationing the air conditioning.

That's right. It's summer in Mississippi, and these people have turned off the air.

To save money.

When I heard that, I couldn't believe it.

On the one hand, it seems like such a futile gesture. I mean, honestly, how much money could that possibly save?! A few hundred dollars? A thousand? Certainly not enough to make a dent in the \$92,000 hole they're in!

On the other hand, I'm impressed—and humbled—by their sacrifice.

These dear friends of ours, these co-workers of ours who are doing ministry on OUR behalf among our nation's poorest, these beautiful people are willingly sitting through a sweltering summer—in the hope that the few dollars they save will provide a home visit for one more Delta infant, or a Bible lesson for one more promising Delta teen.

Friends, I'm writing this message that Dorsey won't write. I'm sharing the facts that Dorsey is too humble to share. Because I think you need to know.

And I'm going to do something else Dorsey might not be able to do. I'm going to ask you to match his commitment.

What dollar amount could you put on your commitment to Cary Christian Center? All Dorsey can do to keep this ministry going is turn the air conditioning off for a few hours each day. And that will not be enough.

Is there anything you can add to that sacrificial gesture?

I hardly dare ask—\$92,000 is a long way to be behind budget, and the continuing ministry need is even greater! But I wonder if this very letter could be the spark that ignites greater giving than Cary Christian Center has ever seen before.

If we all work together, if we all respond to this letter (there's a card and envelope included), could we possibly collect \$100,000 by the end of the month? I know not all of you can, and I respect that.

But if you can, NOW is the time.

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Denny Mulder  
Ministry Partner and Volunteer for Cary Christian Center