



July 2017 Edition

WHISPERING Pines

Jefferson Christian Academy—A Self-Supporting Adventist Boarding Academy



I was in a public school before I came here. It was a big school and the environment left something to be desired. Students arguing in the halls over some simple disagreement, a school officer at every corner looking for druggies and trouble makers, officers escorting kids to classes or the principal's office since they were on probation, groups of kids hanging out talking about how weird or disgusting someone looked, anything they could speak of to make you feel bad about yourself.

I was messed up too. I was in public school for 6 years, and I tried to not let it influence me, but I was influenced to become something I wasn't. I wanted to be someone others would envy and look up to. I wanted to be popular, but you have to conform to the popular ideas in looks and actions to be accepted. I wanted to be like the cool kids and I just got in trouble. I finally made so much trouble that I was placed in truancy and was told by the judge that I needed to drop out of school and take the GED...

That is when my mother remembered she had student application papers for Jefferson Christian Academy. She asked the judge if she enrolled me there, if the court order would be lifted and I would be able to attend school. I was given permission to enroll at JCA, and they accepted me here. What a difference! It was like night turning to day. It was like being in a comfortable home where you are loved and appreciated. Yes, there are restrictions, but they are for your own protection. Even the teachers were trying to help me become what I always wanted to be. I was able to get the grades I was striving for and I was able to get help anytime I need it. I have found that God loves me and He is always there to help me when I struggle with life problems. I found that I can walk with God and be a spiritual leader for other kids. You may think that you will not be influenced by your environment, but that is not true. Don't put yourself or your child at risk and think it won't hurt them. The devil wants you to believe that lie, but I know better. You will lose out in the end.

student who increases the most from their beginning speed gets \$100.00 cash in their pocket and a \$500 scholarship. The prize-winning student's name, date of success and speed is put on a brass plaque in the lobby. The program is on the computer and will not accelerate any faster unless they are doing 80% or better on their comprehension. This incentive is only available one year at a time, but the incentive has been available for the last three years and has been done by several students.

This year after Academy days in April, the competition really heated up. Kade Jenkins finally won the competition at 2,686 words per minute with 80% comprehension. Abbi Minett had the greatest increase of 2,529 words per minute after beginning the year at 137 words per minute. Thomas Gale received the award for highest score between 500 and 999 words per minute.

"This year our reading program has done WONDERS for me", Abbi comments. "I not only increased my speed, but also my accuracy. At the beginning of the year, reading for my various classes was a trial. I would always have to reread things over and over again, and it still wouldn't make sense. While taking the reading class, I found I could read something once and it would stick. It would make sense. It didn't take me as long to complete my assignments either. Toward the end of the year, a student in my class challenged me and accelerated his reading speed. I took that opportunity to increase my own speed and for the rest of the school year, there was some pretty tight, but friendly, competition. I am so glad that that student pushed me to do better because I improved so much as a result".



Learning to Speed Read Is IMPORTANT

The average reading speed and comprehension in the United States is 250 wpm with 60% comprehension. The average reading speed for CEO's and Doctors is 1000 or better. At Jefferson Christian Academy we feel that a student who can read better than the national average has a greater chance in life. All Freshmen entering the academy are required to take the reading class but it is open for any other student to take.

For the last 3 years, our Academy principal has added an incentive. The student whose reading speed is the highest, above 1000 words per minute, receives \$200.00 cash in their pocket and a \$1,000-dollar scholarship. The highest score between 500 and 999 words per minute gets \$100.00 cash in their pocket and a \$500 scholarship. The

NEEDS LIST

- ◆ Boys Dorm Remodel—\$50,000
- ◆ Kitchen Equipment—\$10,000
- ◆ Sidewalk Repairs—\$10,000
- ◆ Insulation—\$10,000
- ◆ Ad Building Gutters—\$800
- ◆ Library Subscriptions—\$300
- ◆ Sponsorship of a Student

Upcoming Events

Registration—August 13, 2017
Classes Begins—August 14, 2017