

# Every Day Miracles

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*“I Just Love Him so Much!”*

*What would it be like to look into the eyes of your child and tell him that you love him so much you would do anything for him . . .*

*But then not be able to because your mind, your body and your soul were owned by something else?*

You didn't ever mean for it to happen,  
but it did.

It started when you wanted to have a little fun with some friends. They told you it wouldn't hurt you and it would really help you forget all of your problems and feel really good. So you tried it. And they were right.

So you kept on using it to get rid of all of your anxiety, to be part of this new group of friends that really cared about you. And you knew you would be able to stop using it anytime you wanted because you knew you needed to be able to take care of your son. You were in control.

Or so you thought.  
But you really weren't.

It didn't take long. It was all you could think about. Even when you were curled up on the couch watching your son nap, you were thinking about how to get money to get more. The stuff wasn't expensive, but you found yourself needing it more often because when you didn't have it, you couldn't think, you couldn't do anything else. You kept telling yourself you were going to stop using it tomorrow, but tomorrow was always a day away.

You had already sold off most of your furniture and your food stamps for the month were gone. But still, all you could think about was where to get more money to get your stuff.

Then came the knock on the door.  
It was someone from the local Children Services agency coming to see you.

You knew what that meant and you were frightened. Your visitor told you that someone had seen your toddler outside playing near the street unsupervised and so Children Services wanted to check on him. They saw him sleeping and started asking you questions about how you cared for him. You kept on saying over and over, “I just love him so much.” And you did.

But when they checked your cupboards and refrigerator, there was only a bottle of ketchup and a few cartons of ramen noodles. They woke your son up and noticed his diaper had not been changed in a while. When they asked you when you changed it last, you couldn't remember. But you kept reassuring them how much you loved him. Because you did.

You tried to explain how hard it was being a single mom with no help. They asked you more questions, but the only answer you could give them was, “I just love him so much.” You were afraid they were going to take him with them and you would never see him again.

But they had a different idea. They told you that they thought they were going to need more time to find out how things really were. And they told you they were going to get you help. They didn't know anything about you yet other than you were not able to care for your child. But they said they wanted to help you and you knew you needed help.

They asked you if you knew about Blessing House and you said no. They told you your son could come here for a little while and they would help you. You still were afraid you were going to lose your son and never see him again, but they said there were really nice people at Blessing House who would take care of him and keep him safe while they helped you. So, even though you were afraid, you said yes.

You brought your son to Blessing House and answered all of our questions to help us take care of him and to help you get the help you needed. You cried when you left and you made sure to tell us as you walked out the door, "I just really love him!"

You missed him so much when you got home. You really needed "it" very badly, but you had promised yourself that you were going to do what you needed to do to make sure your son could back home soon. You looked around the room and saw his toys and his teddy bear, then you noticed how dirty the teddy bear was and how it was missing one of his eyes. You had never noticed that before.

You picked up the phone and called us and asked to talk to him on the phone. You knew he couldn't really talk yet but you asked us to bring him to the phone and hold it up to his ear so you could talk to him. You wanted him to hear your voice. You didn't want him to forget you.

You told him, "I just love you so much!"

When you hung up, you cried. For a long time. You couldn't stop thinking about him. So you called us once more and asked to talk to your son again. We put the phone up to his ear and you whispered into your end, "I love you so much, you know that, right? Mommy's going to try really hard to come see you tomorrow. You be good, OK? I miss you."

Then you hung up, knowing it was going to be a very long night.

You went to sleep that night without your son curled up beside you, and you hugged his dirty teddy bear and prayed that God would help you because you were really desperate. You hadn't talked to God in a long time, but you didn't have anyone else. And you made up your mind that you were really going to do it this time. You didn't have any other choice.

Mom, I hope you know that your son really loves you, too, and he needs you. He doesn't know why he isn't sleeping next to you and he doesn't understand how hard it is for you. But he does ask about you and says he misses you.

#### The Recovery Prayer

"We cannot change the nature of the addict or addiction. We can help to change the old lie "Once an addict, always an addict," by striving to make recovery more available. God, help us to remember this difference."

(A Prayer used in Narcotics Anonymous)