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1 May 2015

Dear Kilnam,

I write this letter in order to express how much I appreciate having you as a colleague in the College of Biblical Studies. When we were looking to hire new faculty several years ago I was excited to learn that you had accepted our offer and were joining our team. But now that I have become more closely acquainted with you as a person, a teacher, and colleague I am doubly appreciative of the Lord's grace in sending you to us.

Your passion for our students is very evident to me. Based on your interactions with students both on and off campus I can see your concern for their welfare and growth. I know that they sense it too and your gracious, patient ways enhance the spirit of the place for them. Your work here at ACU also expands our students' horizons. I am especially grateful for your efforts in bringing students to China and guiding them in mission efforts and intercultural experiences there. You go well beyond the call in recruiting interested students, organizing the trips, and supplying capable leadership on the ground in Asia. Students have impactful and rich experiences in Asia because of your efforts, and I am hopeful that these summer trips will continue.

For various reasons, cynicism and negativity breed all too rapidly in university settings. But your presence is like an antidote to all that. You maintain an irrepressibly positive attitude about your work, our students, your colleagues, and the times in which we find ourselves. You are always eager to do whatever is asked of you and you regularly seek to help others with their own burdens. Your attitude and eagerness to help lift all our spirits and renews our faith. Having spent several years with you in a group devoted to weekly prayer and mutual discernment, I have seen your heart for your colleagues, your students, the church, and our world. I am humbled by the breadth of your concern for us all and your capacity to feel empathy for those who are struggling, here and abroad. I have learned much from you.

CBS and the ACU family are certainly richer with you on board! In appreciation for your work and friendship, I am

Gratefully Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeff W. Childers". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeff" being the most prominent.

Jeff W. Childers
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