

January 16, 2017

To Whom It May Concern,

I met Wesley over a decade ago, as a young interviewee for the position of youth pastor at Oakleaf Baptist Church. I was a member of the youth group myself at the time, and little did I know the profound role this man would come to play in my life. Two monumental phases of his influence included his spiritual direction throughout my time in high school along with aiding me through new challenges and leadership roles while I worked as his intern for two summers during college. Beyond even this, he would later go on to lead my husband and I through premarital counseling prior to wedding the two of us whom he'd mentored as teens. Suffice it to say, the years with which I spent under his guidance not only shaped the individual I would become, but allowed me a prolonged glimpse into the person and character of Wesley Lewis.

Wesley was not what one would consider the "typical" youth pastor; he didn't jump around, act endlessly excited, or display generally extroverted traits. Instead, he offered a reserved, reflective, and discerning demeanor that drew others to him, both youth and adults alike. This deliberate consideration of his words and actions, along with his shocking ability to truly and kindly listen to the concerns of adolescents- so foreign to many adults- set Wesley apart as a unique individual, devoted to following not the status quo, but the call of Christ on his life.

His determination to follow our Lord's calling is a reflection of the picture we see in Scripture of Christ himself. There is nothing showy about Wesley, only an honest and authentic desire to complete the task laid before him: to make disciples of all nations, not least of which those around him who have been placed in his spiritual care.

During my time with Wesley, he has proven an intelligent, patient, and abundantly willing follower of Christ. Wherever he serves, he is sure to offer a thoughtful and humble nudge out of one's comfort zone, for the sake of continued growth for the Kingdom of God. I can think of no other person whom I would more heartily offer my highest level of recommendation to lead a church body.

Please feel free to contact me at [858-652-1761](tel:858-652-1761) if you need any additional information or clarification.

Sincerely,

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