

To Whom it May Concern

Character Reference: Tony Anthony

I have known Tony Anthony, his wife Sara and their children since approximately 2006. They were members of Leigh Road Baptist Church, a church that supported my family whilst we served as missionaries with BMS World Mission (2005-11) We forged a friendship during furlough leave when my wife and I started to attend a weekly home group hosted by the Anthonys. Over the subsequent years we have maintained regular contact that has developed into a friendship strengthened by our mutual love of Jesus Christ and passion for seeing His church flourish. In recent times, it has been a privilege to meet regularly with Tony as prayer partners, to study scripture and discuss searching issues.

In September 2012 I worked with Tony and Avanti Ministries to run a one day conference. In a work context Tony has demonstrated that he is highly effective at assessing and planning, showing attention for detail and an ability to direct actions that minimise mistakes. He is a gifted leader that is able to inspire and envision others, having formed global teams, equipped leaders, and set boundaries for others to follow. Tony is a highly conscientious person with vast amounts of inner drive and self discipline. He is strong at evaluating his work and holding people to their theological moorings. Yet, it is as a communicator of Biblical scripture that Tony is most effective - an evangelist who gets twitchy if he isn't talking to someone about Jesus! His ability to effectively communicate Bible truths to some of the world's most excluded people is well documented, be it in maximum security prisons in Africa, with marginalized gangs in Eastern Europe or pensioners waiting for a bus in Southend town centre. I stand amongst many thousands of people across the globe who can testify to hearing about Jesus from Tony Anthony.

In all the time that I have known Tony, I have had no reason to doubt his integrity. In fact, I have often been challenged by his humility and ability to make a fearless moral inventory of himself. He has always been open and honest about his own shortcomings and limitations, and has sought to put things right through consulting scripture, prayer and sharing with others. Moreover, Tony is aware of his mortal limitations, and this could be observed through his active prayer life, and his willingness to talk about his own weaknesses with others. I believe Tony has demonstrated a high level of honesty and transparency in his daily life. He is driven and uncompromising in his reason d'être to proclaim the gospel message to as many people as possible. His message, and the central focus of all his work is concerned with making the Jesus story known. In my opinion, whilst Tony has effectively used his own personal story as a vehicle to share Christ, the emphasis of his preaching has consistently been on proclaiming the Gospel of Christ and that alone.

Lastly, I believe Tony Anthony to be a man of prayer, and someone who seeks to show by example his closeness to God in private and in public. I can recommend him without reservation. Please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email if you require any further information.

Sincerely,

Daniel Dupree