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Dear Family, Liberty Christian School Family, & Friends that we love like family- When Renee Weaver (my pastors wife) asked us to host International Exchange student(s), we never knew how much our lives would change! We said yes with open arms and a lot of prayer! Thomas arrived first (in July) with his dad from Vietnam. Thomas comes from a long line of Christians. Tom arrived at the beginning of August with his mom and her twin sister from China. Tom had never held a Bible in his hands until being with us. His family does not claim any form of religion, but he was willing to attend a Christian school, live in a Christian home and attend a Christian church. With all this exposure, we prayed that Tom would quickly learn what an amazing Lord we serve and want a relationship with him! This was our entire goal in hosting exchange students! We love serving in Missions, but with the young age of our children, it makes going away for missions more of a challenge. The idea of having students live in our home was perfect!

As we all know, we serve a mighty Lord and Savior who receives all honor & glory! Praise Jesus...Tom has accepted Christ! Through the faithfulness of school, church, friends, many who have prayed for him, and being apart of our family, Tom has grown to understand and love Jesus. It was a learning process, a non traditional acceptance, and the language barrier didn't help, but he truly loves the Lord and never wants to stop growing and praying! Tom asked me just the other day why loving God comes with such a joy and peace?! The spiritual conversations we've shared have been immeasurable an priceless! Thank you all who have watched my Facebook posts, prayed and have encouraged my boys!

The reason for my letter is to share about an amazing opportunity that has been presented. Tom's parents (his mom a teacher and his dad a government official employee) have asked us to bring Tom home to China when school is done and stay for a visit. Tom has also asked the same thing, but for totally different reasons. He has told his parents that he has become a Christian, and they seem to accept it, but he's concerned they don't understand because of the language barrier and lack of Christian exposure. Tom has asked me to come home as he shares his faith with his parents and we pray together that through sharing, they too will be saved! I assume you know that China is one of the hardest places to be a Christian due to persecution. Tom believes his parents will accept him (in many cases kids are thrown out of the home and no longer accepted as family, almost like they're dead), but he wants me to come so that he has someone who cares about him, can help his parents see that his faith is so important and fully accept his faith. Since his dad holds such a high office in China, it could be an amazing God movement in China! On top of this, I'm working on finding Christian missionaries in Guangzhou, so that when he returns to China as a baby Christian, he will have the support of a brother or sister in Christ. It is our ultimate prayer that Tom's parents will see how much their son has grown to love the Lord, that they too will come to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

With all this in mind and with a lot of prayer, we have stepped out in faith and are trying to see if it's possible to go to China with Tom. His family has graciously offered to pay Aaron's airfare to China, but the

rest of the cost of the is on us. I have run the figures and I need roughly a minimum of \$3000 for this trip. I'm praying to have at least \$5000 (because I'm exactly sure what the cost will be once we arrive), but \$3000 will provide the flight, Visa' and details to get to/from China. I just stepped out in faith (because this time of year has the cheapest flights, thank you Cyber Monday deals), and due to friends and family pledging funds, I bought our airline tickets. While in China, we will take a plane down to Vietnam to visit with Thomas and his family. These boys are going to be in our home and community for 3 school years, so seeing their homes will give us a better perspective on their culture. This information would help us to understand and relate to them even deeper!

This letter is ask for your prayer and possible financial assistance. If you are able to commit this trip in prayer or pledge financially, please respond via email. I would need all financial pledges mailed to me by the end of February.(402 E. Main St. Chesterfield, IN 46017). I know this isn't a traditional "missions trip" but in many ways it is. I'm asking the Lord to show me His ways and guide me in His paths (Ps. 25:4&5) and I'm will follow this leading (even though I'm terrified to fly) because I believe the Lord has called to me to this ministry and to be their USA mom. I don't want my new born Christian boy to be thrown to the lions alone, because what mom would want this for her son!

Would you please prayerfully consider supporting me in whatever way you feel it is possible? This journey has blown us away and we praise the Lord for each step because it's only by His love and grace!

In Christ's Arms & faithfulness, we walk forward for His Kingdom Sake, Thanks!,

Kim Ruark