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Word Foundations
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Chick-fil-A CARES
P.O. Box 725489
Atlanta, GA 31139-9923

Dear friends at Chick-fil-A,

Ever since I can remember, I have loved the "Original Chicken Sandwich," and I have loved going to the "Home of the Original Chicken Sandwich" to devour one, along with an order of waffle fries and a soft drink. But of course, my options weren't limited to these items, and I have thoroughly enjoyed choosing from the variety of offerings on your menu. Your food is awesome!

Yet, even more than the food, I have loved Truett Cathy's Christian commitment, as well as the faith of the entire Cathy family. Through the years, you have stood for biblical truth, even against the howling winds of a contrary culture. Whenever I would frequent a Chick-fil-A location, the food always tasted better than it otherwise would have if CFA's owners not been solidly committed to their faith and the cause of Christ.

I have *never* bought the narrative that CFA ever hated *anyone*. In fact, you proved your concern for all, including those who've vehemently disagreed with you, in Orlando during the summer of 2016. On June 12, as you'll remember, Omar Mateen gunned down 49 people and injured another 53 at the Pulse gay nightclub. Even though it was a Sunday and (much to the surprise of many) even though homosexuals were the primary victims, CFA jumped in and offered free food and other assistance to those standing in line to donate blood for the victims. CFA locations helped in numerous other ways as well. Your demonstrations of unconditional concern for all the people of Orlando were a true reflection of the company's posture toward people of all colors, creeds, beliefs, and lifestyles. I wrote about this on my blog a year ago. You can read my post at <https://bit.ly/2RkgYuM>.

Because I have understood these things all along, and because I've also understood the affirmations of commitment to moral and family values Dan Cathy voiced publicly in 2012, I was especially disappointed over CFA's decision to stop, at least for the time being, giving to charities like The Salvation Army and

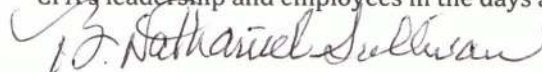
Fellowship of Christian Athletes. It's notoriously unfair that your expansion efforts have been blocked at airports, cities, and college campuses because you've unjustly been accused of hate. These accusations actually have come from haters themselves. The sad thing to me, is that you were consistently *proving your critics wrong simply by serving everyone and by being a sterling example of displaying grace under pressure.*

In particular, your decision to fund Covenant House, a ministry that is LGBT-affirming, is especially troubling. I hope that in the future, when you reevaluate your corporation's charitable giving, you'll pull back from giving to organizations like Covenant House and once again give generous gifts to groups like The Salvation Army and Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Since I had not yet written on my blog about the changes you made in your corporate giving policy and a good many weeks had passed since you announced the changes on November 18, 2019, this week and last I've been writing about your decision and releasing installments in a 3-part series titled "Lessons from College Park." Part 1 is available here: <https://bit.ly/2GjkoHW>. You'll be able to access parts 2 and 3 from links provided on the posts.

Please be assured that I've made every effort to be fair in my account of what transpired and in forming and conveying my perspective on how Christians should respond. I am not calling for a boycott but am trying to give my readers the best information I have so they can make intelligent and fair decisions themselves.

Thank you for giving my concerns serious consideration. I am convinced my perspective is shared by many others. I will be praying for CFA and CFA's leadership and employees in the days ahead.


Sincerely, B. Nathaniel Sullivan