

CLARITY OF PURPOSE IN A NOISY, CONFUSING WORLD

A visionary man of God.

One compelling purpose – to serve “God and Humanity”.

That sums up our school's Founder, Bishop William F Oldham.

On why he established the Anglo-Chinese School in 1886, Bishop Oldham wrote:

*“When I projected an Anglo-Chinese School, I was providing a want which was felt...for still another school system in which **clear ideas of duty and morals, and right relations to God and men, shall be consistently taught.**”*

Bishop William F Oldham

Source: *Malaya: Nature's Wonderland*, 1907

His clarity of purpose for the school never wavered.

On his 75th birthday celebrations, at a Testimonial Dinner Address at the Broad Street Methodist Episcopal Church in Columbus, Ohio, Bishop Oldham looked back at founding of the ACS schools and summed up that they were “**doing something for God and Humanity**”.

128 years on, Oldham’s founding principles continue to inspire and challenge us. More importantly, they give us direction. In an educational and social landscape that is becoming increasingly complex and where multiple voices compete for a school's attention and action, Oldham's clarity of purpose for setting up ACS is as relevant and potent today as it was in 1886, when it was established - a school where the

focus will be on teaching "**duty and morals, and right relations to God and men.**"

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From its founding, the distinguishing feature of ACS has been its commitments to nurture ACSians to be people with Godly character with a heart to serve others. They understand that respect and appreciation for others are the foundations to strong and lasting relationships. Above all, that we need humility to acknowledge God and His blessings in our lives. That these distinguishing features have developed since our founding to become an integral part of the ACS identity and culture speaks volumes of the vision and wisdom of our Founder.

With God's grace and providence, let us continue to be faithful to these founding principles. Amidst rapid and sometimes confusing change, we should hold fast to the clarity of vision that has served our school family well and brought us to this day. Let these vital seeds sown in our founding years continue to grow deep roots in our schools and bear much fruit for generations to come.

The Best is Yet to Be.

Winston Hodge

Principal

