

Authorship and Publication of Materials by Men and Women Active in Immorality

At the Ministries of

Institute In Basic Youth Conflicts (IBYC)

Institute in Basic Life Principles (IBLP)

@ Oak Brook, Illinois and

@ Northwoods Retreat Center / Crazy Bear Lodge

This is a summary of the direct involvement of prominent and key ministry staff deeply involved in ongoing immorality that were also directly involved in the writing, editing, and publishing of ministry literature while engaging in immoral behavior including:

Men's Manual

Character Sketches

Life Notebook

Basic Seminar materials

Advanced Seminar materials

Minister Conference materials

ATI publications and other materials of the ministry

In the ministry Board of Directors meeting on July 5, 1980, Bill Gothard (BG) denied his brother's involvement in publications stating "[my brother] didn't have anything to do with the Men's Manual." This statement was very soon and convincingly proven to be false by the testimony and acknowledgement of other ministry Directors who had been involved in the development of ministry publications.

Involvement by [Steve Gothard, referenced throughout this document as] #2, Vice President, Institute in Basic Youth Conflicts

1. 1976. Bill Gothard led the ministry Board of Director's to accept [Steve's] "restoration" from having "hugged and kissed four girls" (BG) which restoration would be best achieved by sending him back to the Northwood's Retreat Center "to continue writing Character Sketches." (Bill Gothard quote recorded by Gary Smalley in July 6, 1980 personal notes).
2. "[Steve] re-designed the Life Notebook because the original design by Bill was not practical or prestigious." (Bill Gothard quote recorded by Gary Smalley in July 6, 1980 personal notes).
3. [Steve] informed one of Bill Gothard's executive secretaries of the Character Sketches publishing idea and that "IBYC ministry would purchase them from [Steve] (personally)." (Quote from #5).
4. "Bill Gothard has admitted (to Gary Smalley) allowing [Steve] during the past three years to help him in the development of all seminar publications including the Men's Manual of which [Steve] gave Bill the foundational format based on I Cor. 16:13, 14. [Steve] gave Bill the idea taken from the Living Bible." (Bill Gothard quote recorded by Gary Smalley in July 6, 1980 personal notes).

5. “[Steve] and I (Bill Gothard) would get together to go over ideas.”... “[Steve] had a part in gathering materials.” “[Steve] developed the outline for the Men’s Manual and Life Notebook.” (Reported by Department Director, Joe Coney, personal notes of July 5, 1980).

Involvement by Rev. Doctor Bill Gothard, President, Institute in Basic Youth Conflicts

Bill Gothard is listed as the sole author of the Basic Seminar, the Advanced Seminar, Men’s Manual, Character Sketches, Life Notebook, and an assortment of ministry magazines and other publications.

1. 1980. Bill Gothard admitted to ministry directors his involvement in ongoing masturbation since he was 31 years old through age of 45 (1967 to 1980, fourteen years). This sexual addiction of Bill Gothard has been reported by Department directors, staff and others who attended these meetings at the ministry headquarters during the Spring of 1980, including Gary Smalley (July 6, 1980 personal notes), Mike Laramie (June 1, 1980 personal notes). The first acknowledgement of this sexual addiction by Bill Gothard was in Director’s meeting on May 27, 1980.

Masturbation by a man commonly involves the visualization of sexual foreplay and intercourse with either a random woman or of persons of interest. Masturbation is the activity of the underlying and repeating sin of committing adultery by exercising mentally and physically one’s sexual lust for women. The specific teachings of Jesus Christ link that what Bill Gothard was acknowledging to these men as the activity of masturbation was in reality the repeating sin of adultery.

A Clear View of Masturbation by C. S. Lewis

For me the real evil of masturbation would be that it takes an appetite which, in lawful use, leads the individual out of himself to complete (and correct) his own personality in that of another (and finally in children and even grandchildren) and turns it back; sends the man back into the prison of himself, there to keep a harem of imaginary brides. And this harem, once admitted, works against his *ever* getting out and really uniting with a real woman. For the harem is always accessible, always subservient, calls for no sacrifices or adjustments, and can be endowed with erotic and psychological attractions which no woman can rival. Among those shadowy brides he is always adored, always the perfect lover; no demand is made on his unselfishness, no mortification ever imposed on his vanity. In the end, they become merely the medium through which he increasingly adores himself. Do read Charles Williams' *Descent into Hell* and study the character of Mr. Wentworth.

And it not only the faculty of love which is thus sterilized, forced back on itself, but also the faculty of imagination. The true exercise of imagination in my view, is (a) To help us understand other people, (b) To respond to, and, some of us, to produce art. But it has also a bad use: to provide for us, in shadowy form, a substitute for virtues, successes, distinctions, etc. which ought to be sought *outside* in the real world--e.g., picturing all I'd do if I were rich instead of earning and saving. Masturbation involves this abuse of imagination in erotic matters (which I think bad in itself) and thereby encourages a similar abuse of it in all spheres. After all, almost the *main* work of life is to *come out* of our selves, out of the little dark prison we are all born in. Masturbation is to be avoided as *all* things are to be avoided which retard this process. The danger is that of coming to *love* the prison.

(From a letter to a Mr. Masson dated March 6, 1956 in the Wade Collection at Wheaton College in Wheaton, IL)

Jesus Christ taught as plainly as is possible, that “lust for a woman is the same as having already committed adultery with her in his heart.” Matthew 5:27-30. Jesus Christ does not specifically condemn masturbation but explains that lusting after a woman in your mind and heart is the same as committing adultery. The one who is so self-absorbed and conducting himself in solo-sexual activity has fallen into the addiction of lustful thoughts, sexual stimulation and/or pornographic graphics, involving visualizations and fantasies of conducting immorality with specific women in such a way as to be personally and spiritually destructive making it nearly impossible to pursue holiness. When Bill Gothard acknowledged his many years of sexual addiction involving masturbation, he was in effect acknowledging fourteen years of committing adultery/fornication.

2. Bill Gothard was observed by Gary Smalley (on flight in Bill’s ministry jet aircraft) wiping a spilled Coke off a ministry secretary’s breasts and personal areas. (Gary Smalley in July 6, 1980 personal notes).

3. Bill Gothard is known to meet often with single staff women late at night in his private cabin in the woods associated with the ministry’s Northwood’s Retreat Center. (Gary Smalley in July 6, 1980 personal notes).

4. In the year 2009, Bill Gothard asked Dr. Gary Smalley to help him remove the account from the Wikipedia website which described Bill Gothard being discovered late at night with [a] secretary sitting on his lap in a [sheer] nightgown at Bill Gothard’s personal log cabin in the woods near the Crazy Bear Lodge. Dr. Smalley had to inform Bill Gothard that he, Gary Smalley, was actually the one who had discovered him in this compromising situation, further breaking down this particular staff women where she was weakened to fall to the sexual enticements of Bill Gothard’s brother.

5. The depth of Bill Gothard’s immoral and irresponsible behavior was his sending new and additional single staff women to the Crazy Bear Lodge in Watersmeet, Michigan to live and work where they were spiritually and sexually violated, with his knowledge of details of ongoing immorality at this ministry facility. During this time he failed to notify the parents of these young women of their daughters being sexually violated. That is clearly immoral. Too many consider “immoral” as only involving a carnal sexual activity. The correct and primary meanings of “immoral” are illustrated by Bill Gothard’s persistent preferences to hide and deceive any who would learn of his and these related failures.

immoral [ɪˈmɒrəl]

adj

1. transgressing accepted moral rules; corrupt
2. sexually dissolute; profligate or promiscuous
3. unscrupulous or unethical

4. tending to corrupt or resulting from corruption *an immoral film immoral earnings*

Collins English Dictionary – Complete and Unabridged© HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2003

6. During these many years of detailed knowledge of ongoing immorality with his own young and talented staff women, Bill Gothard continued to send new and additional young women to the Crazy Bear Lodge. When these women arrived, Bill Gothard used them in long hours of work to author, edit, and publish his Seminar as well as Religious and Educational materials that would be sold to the unknowing public for \$1,000,000s of dollars each year. The likely result of this team of women and men being disqualified and terminated from Bill Gothard's ministry over incidents of ongoing sexual violations and perversions would have suddenly stopped the publishing of these high revenue producing publications. Keeping this team hard at work authoring, editing and publishing what was being represented as his "spiritual works", is immoral.

Bill Gothard is fully responsible for *sending* new and additional young daughters of Dad's and Mom's into this remote location in Upper Peninsula Michigan to live with and work for his brother, knowing he was sending them into harm's way, where they also were sexually assaulted with all spiritual wickedness, as had the previous young women sent previously.

Bill Gothard is fully responsible for *keeping* young staff women, already and previously assaulted by his brother, keeping them in the same remote living quarters with his brother assigned to those remote posts by Bill Gothard to continue working daily for their tormentor and working for Bill Gothard to assist him in writing, editing and moving IBYC/IBLP publications to the market for sale, he, Bill Gothard, failing to move them out immediately, failing to provide to them spiritual, mental and emotional help to deal with their years of trauma.

These actions fall easily into the scope of "immorality" and his continued lying about these facts only prevents further his coming to freedom by full acknowledgement of his sins and the damage he caused.

I would note that God may and has used non-believers (for example King Artaxerxes, see Neh. 2) as well as His people who may be living in and/or practicing unconfessed sin (see David in 2 Samuel 11). However, He calls godly leaders to bring them to repentance, sometimes publically as in the case of Nathan and David (2 Samuel 12) or King Saul who was in sin in spite of his good intentions and his works were rejected in 1 Samuel 15.

When Bill Gothard teaches the Basic Seminar and writes in the ministry's publications on the topic of "Moral Purity" what specific understanding and personal experience would he have to clearly teach the truth of the Gospel when he had been failing himself over so many years in this very area? Would there seem to be a relationship between the 14 family members and staff members who lived and worked in closest daily proximity to Bill Gothard and their failures morally? What teaching and personal victory in this area could Bill Gothard personally have passed on to these dear family and staff from his teachings and example on this subject during the 60's, 70's, 80's and beyond? Is the material biblically sound or is it skewed to conceal the ongoing sin which was being practiced during the creation of these materials?

The Word of God is clear.

"Among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity." Ephesians 5:3. |

"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God" I Corinthians 10:31

If a person is not fully convinced that an activity is pleasing to God, then it is a sin: “Everything that does not come from faith is sin” Romans 14:23.

“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body” I Corinthians 6:19-20.

Paul states clearly "Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness . . . offer the parts of your body to him (God) as instruments of righteousness. For sin shall not be your master" (Rom 6:13- 14)

“...But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished , it brings forth death...You lust and do not have...so you fight and quarrel...you adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wished to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God...Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.” James 1:14-15, 3:2-8.

“For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God...if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.” Romans 8:6-8, 13.

“For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you know how to possess his own vessel (body) in sanctification and honor, not in lustful passion like the Gentiles who do not know God; and that no man transgress and defraud his brother (any person) in the matter because the Lord is the avenger in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned you. For God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification.” I Thessalonians 4:1-8

“...But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints...for this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not be partakers with them; for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light (for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth), trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them...” Ephesians 5:3-13

“...He (God) disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness...Pursue peace with all men and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord...For you know that even afterwards, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought for it with tears...for our God is a consuming fire.” Hebrews 12:10, 14, 17, 29

“Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace.” Romans 6:12-14

“Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.” Galatians 5:19-21

“...God is Light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.” I John 1:5-9

It is our prayer that Bill Gothard would yet, while still alive, acknowledge all of his sin and experience God’s great mercy and God’s cleansing from all unrighteousness.

And when that confession does occur, it should lead to the named author (along with his team of co-authors, editors and publishers of these materials) to instruct those who purchased these materials and are continuing to rely upon them, what they must do with materials authored and edited by people fully involved in their flesh and walking in darkness at the time of the writings.

Involvement by Long Term Editors, Assistants to Bill Gothard

A total number of 14 senior and long term staff were involved with the immorality uncovered among those in management and staff living the very closest to Bill Gothard in 1979-1980. This gross and perverse immorality had continued daily for at least seven years that Bill Gothard knew about it and possibly as long as a fourteen years. A good number of these women and men worked closely with Bill Gothard, traveled to Seminars in distant cities with Bill Gothard, and lived in close proximity to Bill Gothard on a daily basis as they worked hand in hand to write, edit, proof, and publish the many materials of the ministry sold to millions of unsuspecting participants in the Basic Seminar, Advanced Seminar, Minister Seminars, ATI educational and training materials. Dads and Moms, youth, Pastors and Teachers in the millions have relied upon the printed materials and lectures by Bill Gothard to guide them, instruct them in successful living and how to resolve life’s conflicts and needs. The question is simple and basic:

On what basis can or would you rely upon the writings and teachings of men and women involved on a daily basis in perversions and immorality, who authored and produced materials during the 1960s and 1970s which materials you still today utilize and rely upon and teach to others?

How would you, as a Dad, Mom or Grandparent, in homeschooling your children utilizing ATI materials, Character Sketches, and other related materials, how would you answer your children when they ask you to explain the life story, the biography of Bill Gothard? Will you tell them the truth? If you do not, as they learn how to Google, they will now and forever find a very large amount of documentation on the failures and, as of today, the unconfessed sins and failures of Bill Gothard.