

January 14, 2014

OPEN LETTER

To: Wes Cantrell  
Advisory Board Member, Institute in Basic Life Principles  
Past CEO of Lanier Worldwide, Inc.

Hello Wes,

I am in receipt of your letter of 1.9.2014 (copied below).

You and I are in full agreement that the ministry of Bill Gothard has had a positive impact on your life and mine. I described that impact on my life a number of times in the materials I sent to you though it seems you may not have read the material enough to learn that we do share that history. And that history is the primary reason it seems important to do all that we can do to improve the ministry. Wouldn't you agree?

In your letter to me you were clear to point out that you were "destroying" my letter to you along with the material I mailed to you as an Advisory Board member of the Institute in Basic Life Principles of Oak Brook, Illinois.

It is of interest to me you would "destroy" the five requests of Bill Gothard for these materials, his request for these materials to be assembled for his review, to establish the truth and as a basis for pursuing spiritual reconciliation with those he and the IBLP organization have offended.

It is of interest to me as a friend of Jesus Christ that you would "destroy" these materials that feature a solution to all of the IBLP organization's problems in the presentation marked "The All Sufficiency of Jesus Christ." Why would you characterize this material as "extremely damaging" with clear solutions and corrections being recommended?

In your letter you state that the Advisory Board of the Institute in Basic Life Principles is a group of men that is "purely an in name only position." Most corporate and ministry organizations that assemble an Advisory Board of Directors would design them to provide advice, support, review and correction to any range of matters that would concern any organization. If the Advisory Board at the IBLP website is featured as functioning and at work, are you announcing that the protection and help to Bill Gothard by this Board has been rejected by him? Or is this Advisory Board posted at the IBLP website as only a ruse?

Wes, we do not know each other, yet, but I think we could agree that when God or spiritual men put you or me or any others on the wall to watch out for the city below, it is a critically important assignment. Dereliction of duty is fatal. If you as a watchman are assigned to one section of the wall, and if you fail to warn the people sleeping below and they suffer loss from some enemy of the faith, their blood will be on your hands. God is fairly clear about that in Ezekiel 33:1-39.

"Son of man, speak to the sons of your people and say to them, 'If I bring a sword upon a land, and the people of the land take one man from among them and make him their watchman...\_But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet and the people are not warned, and a sword comes and takes a person from them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood I will require from the watchman's hand...\_And you, son of man, say to your fellow citizens, 'The righteousness of a righteous man will not deliver him in the day of his transgression, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he will not stumble because of it in the day when he turns from his wickedness; whereas a righteous man will not be able to live by his righteousness on the day when he commits sin.'" (33:2, 6, 12)

If indeed, as you have stated, Bill Gothard "requested you remain on the advisory board", and you knew then or know now it is a "do nothing" position, then you already know it is a trick, a deception of the public. If you are in your letter telling us that the watchmen on the wall at the IBLP organization are merely cardboard cutouts with your photo glued to the front, is that not misleading to the people below who see your cardboard cutout from a distance and are trusting you (and the other men) to be their watchman on this section of the wall?

I would pray today that even yet, you and I can work out a way to stand together on this section of the wall.

Tony



**Wes Cantrell**  
**Advisory Board Member**

Wes began his career in 1955 as a field engineer for Lanier Business Products, Inc. Over the years, his diligence earned him increasingly responsible positions within the company, until 1987, when he was named president and CEO of [Lanier Worldwide, Inc.](#) In 1999, he was named chairman and CEO, a position he held until 2001, when he retired.

He attended his first [Basic Seminar](#) in 1972 with his wife, Bernadine, who had attended the Seminar in 1971. Since then, they have faithfully brought children and grandchildren to the Seminar and have sought to implement these Biblical principles in all aspects of their family, business, and ministry.

Wes served on the Board of Directors from 2003 until 2005.

**Wesley E. Cantrell**

January 9, 2014

Mr. Tony

Dear

The teaching of Bill Gothard has had a positive impact on my life and the life of our family. Both the basic seminar and the advanced were extremely valuable. I will always value the contribution of Bill Gothard to the success of our family.


I was a member of the IBLP Board for approximately two years and resigned in November 2005. At Bill's request I remained on the advisory board. This is purely an in name only position and I have not been involved in any way since then,

In scanning through the materials you sent I have no familiarity with any of this except some rumors of issues involving Bills brother from years ago. None of this was discussed at any board meetings I attended.

The allegations in the binder you sent are extremely damaging and I am destroying it. I would not like any of my family members or anyone else to see this. It is questionable that you broadcast such information, especially to those not involved.

Please do not send me any other information regarding your conflict with IBLP.

Sincerely

  
Wes Cantrell