

10.10.2013 Phone call from Bill Gothard to Tony G

From: MGA [<mailto:mga@iblp.org>]
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2013 2:12 PM
To: Tony
Subject: Reconciliation

Dear Tony,

Thank you for your very gracious response to my phone call this afternoon. It is truly my desire that we be reconciled after all these years. I would therefore appreciate any information you could send me that would clarify the record. Thank you for your openness to this matter.

Through Christ our Lord,
Bill Gothard

From: Tony G
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2013 2:42 PM
To: MGA
Subject: Seeking of Reconciliation invitation accepted

October 10, 2013

Dear Bill,

Thanks for your phone call today and your email with your request as to how we might be reconciled.

It was good to learn of the Lord's working in your heart and mind in recent months regarding the need to pursue reconciliation among believers in Christ who have been offended and damaged and your desire to be open to the Lord's direction.

I for sure want to be a help and encouragement to you in this pursuit of your obedience to the Lord. I do not want to be a hindrance in any way.

I will consider how best to respond to your request and to do so promptly.

In preparation for me sending to you my response to your publication and wide distribution of the 19 page letter of 1981, it may be helpful for me to make a few comments (see attached) to put your 1981 letter and my response to it in some perspective. Initially I was thinking of sending to you those responses directly, but in considering it further, it might be helpful that you and I think through the process that will lend itself to the best outcomes and that we come to a mutual understanding of the seriousness of these matters. You may well already know the seriousness, but it will be helpful to me to understand your readiness and soberness in dealing with each one. In that context of a mutually agreed upon process your reading of my responses to your letter of 32 years ago will be more helpful to you and to me.

I want to be very clear. I do not want to pursue these communications with you to obtain some reference letter to obtain employment (that might be too late just now), or to obtain only some recantation of your false charges against me so I can feel vindicated in the eyes of my father, local churches, my community and relationships across the country. But much more importantly I want my effort to count toward assisting you and your Board in addressing, with God's help, the underlying sources of conflict that have prevented your ministry from being all that it could have been, restoring the integrity of the Teacher and

the ministry, and correcting all teaching materials back to the clarity of the Gospel message which God can bless and wants to bless. I am glad to be a very small part of that, but that is my prayer and interest.

I am glad for this one thing: God is great in mercy. His salvation offered to us was expensive and has been paid in full, once and for all time because of His great Love. His mercy is experienced today and over and over again as we confess and forsake our sin, trusting Him for the outcome He purposes.

It will be easy enough for us to work through these important matters if you have first met with God and heard from His Word and Spirit about each one. I will look forward to hearing from you on these several Questions outlined in the attached notes.

Thanks again for being in contact.
Tony G

From: MGA [<mailto:mga@iblp.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2013 9:03 PM
To: Tony G
Subject: RE: Seeking of Reconciliation invitation accepted

Dear Tony,

Thank you very much for your email of October 11th. I have carefully and prayerfully read and reread it. I also reread the 19-page letter that was written in 1981 and had a phone discussion with Gary Smalley. I sincerely want to be reconciled with you. Toward that goal, I would ask you to respond to the following three points.

1. The statement that I had "detailed knowledge" of what was going on prior to 1980 is a very important point. What facts do you have to confirm this? I can say in all honesty before the Lord that I did not have detailed knowledge of what was going on. When I was told of broken standards, I was led to believe they were of a much lighter nature than they actually were. I dealt with them publicly and had no further knowledge of anything until 1980.
2. Which of the 26 points in my letter were incorrect and what is incorrect about them?
3. Did you personally talk with Russ Chandler of the Los Angeles Times about the situation in the Institute prior to his writing an article about it in the newspaper?

I will look forward to hearing from you on these three important matters.

Through Christ our Lord,
Bill

From: Tony G
Sent: Thursday, October 17, 2013 9:18 AM
To: MGA
Subject: Request to Confirm Every Fact 10.16.2013

October 17, 2013

Hello Bill,

I would be glad to respond to your questions below though these involve going to storage and pulling files that I have not read or reviewed in 33 years.

I am certainly willing to do that if it would be helpful to you in this process.

It is indeed an important question regarding “detailed knowledge” and that was the most important question and turning point in 1980. There is a good amount of evidence to clearly support that including testimony I took from each of the women involved (I am sure GS did not ask the same level of detail as I did in his interviews), your own admissions on several occasions to department managers interviewing you, as well as testimony of your interviews with the women involved over the years. This is detail which was reviewed with you in 1980 and presented to your Board of Directors on several occasions in 1980 with you in attendance at one meeting where you were invited to disagree with or show the error of any detail being presented. This detail was also copied to your law firm before and during their 40 hour deposition of me, and would have been enhanced by testimony collected and utilized in the later lawsuits against you and the ministry by others who had ongoing access to sources which I was not involved in.

It is of interest to me, and to many, that you would attempt to claim that you did not know the “condition of your flock” (Proverbs 27:23-27) and were entirely unknowing of the ongoing immorality and sexual perversions being perpetrated constantly over so many years with the 15 people who you were closest to in work and in living environment. That blindness and lack of attentive care in this case would be appalling to consider with you being their umbrella of protection. The evidence and testimony will show that you actually did have “detailed knowledge” of some of the immorality (though I have stated and do believe you did not know all or everything going on). The evidence will also show you were resistant to dealing with it, rejecting every person who attempted to bring it to your attention or confront you about it, with you making great efforts to cover up the fact of it occurring and actually protecting the perpetrator. As much as you hate the fact, I found it incredibly easy in 1979 and 1980 to ask each of the women and your brother and the remaining of the 15 of your staff, very simple and direct questions and they were each and all most eager to tell all and ask for genuine help to stop living such a life and escape the slavery they were involved in. You had even a better advantage and position than I to make the same inquiry with even greater responsibility and sense of care over seven and even to fourteen years that you were aware of what was going on.

I will have that documentation of your “detailed knowledge” available for you again, once it has been retrieved from the files, and once we confirm between us how best to handle the awful detail of this evidence. It involves names, it involves detail of wickedness and sexual perversions and the ruination of some of our best friends. I am not comfortable sending that level of detail to you without some authority and protection being in place for the receipt and use of that information, and with written assurances from you and your Board of Directors this information will not be utilized against any of the witnesses who have provided this detail over the years. Because of the failures in the past by yourself and your Board to manage this level of detail, they ought to write out the penalties they will accept for violation of such an agreement. Does that sound agreeable to you? What advice would you have for how to handle this very sensitive information? It may not be helpful to your easy reading of the material, but we may want to redact the personal names of all the persons involved so no ill would further befall them. I will await to hear your best advice for this question.

Regarding the 19 page letter, I am ready to provide to you my Responses once you have had time and occasion to respond to the several questions in my 10.10.13 letter to you (attached to email).

Regarding the name Russ Chandler, that will require my checking a file or two. You are asking about sequence of time which I would not know the answer to without more information from you. If you

would, please send a copy of his article I can then check the date and content against a time line I would imagine I have in files. If you would, please detail the reason or background for your question. I know I had scores of major media calling me all the time though I typically referred them to other managers or to your office. I had little time or interest to visit with media, even so called Christian media, having by then a distrust of them.

It seems to me that your questions below quickly go to the several basic questions I raised in my previous 10.10.2013 letter attached to the email. Were you able to open that document and consider it as well as the email?

It seems your need will be to “confirm every fact” on a host of events and relationships and communications.

Many of your 1980 friends/staff, as well as ministry peers through years following, who have attempted several, formal and careful and documented processes to communicate with you following the instructions of Christ Jesus (Matthew 18:10-20), have realized your resistance and rejection of each and all of those attempts leave them and the church of Jesus Christ with only the instructions of Scripture to “tell the church” and “so that all may be warned.” I Timothy 5:20-25. In the most part they no longer have any hope of your repentance and have no more patience to respond to your attempts to communicate based on Matthew 18:15 text only. Most and possibly even now all will require your adjustment to the reality this is now a church wide issue and that communications with you on the subject of repentance in a godly manner (II Cor. 7) will need to involve a managed process that includes your authorities and at some point representatives from the church of Jesus Christ to verify, confirm, and testify themselves to your “putting on the new man.” This process you want to engage in will, in my view, follow more closely the work Barnabas and the church did with a man named Paul whose name change from the enemy he was in Saul was too suspicious. It should require verification, confirmation, and testimony that grows from your obedience in a very long list of offenses toward the church. This is all good. It is not bad news but good news, and a terrific opportunity to do it right with the very short time we have left.

I am willing to participate in either process, whether a very wide publication of all documented detail about each of the charges still standing against you, or a more orderly outlining of those offenses and a careful obedience in showing to God and to the church the fruits of your repentance for each one. If you can advise what you are prepared to do in relationship to the issues I outlined in some detail in the previous letter that will be helpful in clearing the way forward.

I will await your response.

Tony G

From: MGA [<mailto:mga@iblp.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 8:29 PM
To: Tony G
Subject: RE: Request to Confirm Every Fact 10.16.2013

Dear Tony,

Thank you for your response. I believe that both of us want to pursue the reconciliation of my offenses toward you. This would directly involve any untrue statements in the 19 page letter that I sent out. Would you please respond to this?

Regarding my “detailed knowledge” It is not a matter of what people said to you but what they said to me and what my understanding was from the words that they used.

Through Christ our Lord,
Bill

From: Tony G
Sent: Thursday, October 31, 2013 9:03 PM
To: MGA
Subject: RE: Request to Confirm Every Fact 10.16.2013

October 31, 2013

Hello Bill,

Thanks for your note yesterday.

I am traveling for two weeks with a full schedule of appointments and will work to address your requests upon my return.

It seems clear from your note you do not want to respond to my several questions and requests for how we might best arrange for these communications together. I had thought it was good to invite your input and support for the process and format. I do understand the difficulty of this all for you. The bottom line for me is to have this fully resolved, for your spiritual benefit, a cleared conscience, a life above reproach to stand before God (very soon) and before all men/all women with no outstanding charges that have not been addressed. I am glad to support you through this obedience to Christ. Matthew 5:23-26.

In the absence of your response and advice I will proceed with what I believe is best and which follows the instructions of Scripture for situations such as ours, as you have previously and often taught.

My responses to your first two questions I will copy to you as well as to several select men whom I would like to participate in the review of the matters that stand as offenses and interruptions to our fellowship and have too long disrupted and damaged the message presentation and the ministry God would have intended. I believe the first men we ought to involve will be most helpful to us both, for their support by their sincere prayers and confirmation of the teachings of God’s Word that apply to the reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness that we can pursue and God can honor. I will show C: for you when these materials are sent to you. If you would, please send instructions for mailing or courier instructions you might prefer. Thank you much.

If we experience unusual difficulty or obfuscation, these matters may require a wider publication of these materials for the benefit of the church of Jesus Christ. It is clear to me that one of us ought to publish on this subject, and I would much rather hope you could see a way to do that rather than myself! I am prepared to work through this either way and am praying daily for this to go well for you.

“Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. ² Make room for us *in your hearts*; we wronged no one, we corrupted no one, we took advantage of no one. ³ I do not speak to condemn you, for I have said before that you are in our hearts to die together and to live together. ⁴ Great is my confidence in you; great is my boasting on your behalf. I am filled with comfort; I am overflowing with joy in all our affliction.” II Cor. 7:1-4

Tony G

From: MGA [<mailto:mga@iblp.org>]
Sent: Monday, November 11, 2013 10:37 AM

To: Tony G
Subject: RE: Request to Confirm Every Fact 10.16.2013

Dear Tony,

My original call to you was so that you and I might be reconciled. Your latest email seems to be a reenactment of what is described in the 19 page letter and it certainly would not be wise to go there again. Let's just stay with the original goal.

Sincerely,
Bill

From: Tony G
Sent: Monday, November 11, 2013 12:55 PM
To: 'MGA'
Subject: RE: Request to Confirm Every Fact 10.16.2013

November 11, 2013

Hello Bill,

I would be glad to understand what your "original goal" was or is. Please be more plain if you can.

I was simply responding to your two requests of me. The materials you requested are fairly close to ready to send to you. It is no pleasure of mine to even review the events of the past, and the comments below are in no case a "reenactment" of what you described and published in your 19 page letter of 1981. Because of your stated inability to recall ever writing such a letter and your denial that you would never declare someone an "agent of Satan" and your being unable to recall our two phone calls four years ago with Gary, it seemed it might be helpful to review at least enough details as to bring some basic facts and events back to your memory.

Your statement below "...the 19 page letter and it certainly would not be wise to go there again" ... seems to indicate you would like to pursue reconciliation without dealing with the offenses and damage done by your offenses in writing, publishing, and widely distributing your letter.

It would seem that any genuine desire and initiative on your part to pursue a godly reconciliation would normally involve a request by you of what has caused any disruption of fellowship in Christ so that those offenses/causes could be acknowledged and to every extent possible, be put back right so that the matter or charges can be resolved and a rebuilding of trust between believers in Christ could be pursued once again. In my understanding of Biblical reconciliation, that seems to be the sense of it as you study Joseph and his brothers, Esau and Jacob and their wonderful reconciliation and renewed fellowship and cooperation as brothers, Paul and John Mark, Paul, Philemon and Onesimus, Peter and Paul, among many others.

While there would seem to be several causes for the disruption of your and my fellowship and friendship, two fairly clear examples include your 19 pages of Libel which you and the Institute ministry published widely on Corporate letterhead, and the false accusations you made to my home church by the two men you sent by jet at your ministry's expense to engage in secret meetings with my home church.

These materials authored by you are patently false, have been then and are still very damaging to the cause of Christ and of course very damaging to your own reputation. They were both shameful acts, obviously malicious in their intent, and were in direct and repeated violation of and rejection by you of the teachings of Jesus Christ in Matthew 18:10-20. It seems that fully addressing these first two very basic and clear violations of Christian fellowship and oneness in the Spirit would go a very long way in exercising your desire to obey and follow Christ. It seems you

would also like very much for these two events to be reconciled with the truth and for you and I to experience the love and peace that should come out of that process. Would you concur?

How would you propose we pursue reconciliation of our fellowship in Jesus Christ?

Have you worked out any steps or instructions for how this might be done according to the Word of God? Could you copy to me any materials or instructions you might have that you want to follow?

I will be most interested in your response.

It is of interest to me that a growing number of groups and individuals you are in communication with are becoming quite persuaded that in their cases, after many attempts to resolve very specific problems, complaints and charges against you over recent years, that the process has gone well beyond the first steps of Matthew 18 and are now, at the stage of “telling the church” (Matthew 18:17), “rebuke in the presence of all” I Timothy 5:20, 17-25), and “...instead even expose them...for all things become visible when they are exposed by the light..” Eph. 5:11.

Many of these groups and individuals are watching closely how you will respond to this fairly straight forward case which you have on your own initiated communication to somehow resolve. As I have stated to you before, my great preference is that you see a way before God to resolve it in a sincere and honest manner accompanied by a godly sorrow with the full evidences/fruits of repentance (II Cor. 7). It is my prayer that you, with a clear awe and fear of the coming Judgment of God, would make every effort to be sure you have not been quite disqualified by the breaking of the Rules of the Race. I Corinthians 9:24-27; Eccles. 12:4; II Cor.5:10, “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.”

Again I would ask if you could provide your advice or instructions for how you might want to pursue your request, your “original goal.”

Thanks so much.

Tony G