

June 24, 2015

Dr. Charles Swindoll
Stonebriar Community Church
4801 Legendary Drive
Frisco, TX 75034

Dear Dr. Swindoll,

Attached you will find a statement we have sent Bill Gothard and others regarding our failed attempt to encourage Bill toward true repentance. We have spent countless hours over the past 35 years and specifically in the past 22 months in this futile attempt. As Matthew 18:17 is applied one more time we wash our hand of any further attempts unless it become evident that his heart has been changed. Even while applying Matthew 18:17, both of us have forgiven Bill based on Matthew 18:21-22 & 35, Luke 6:37, Mark 11:25-26 even for unrepentant items and what was apparently insincere repentance to us. We are not judging Bill only reporting to the greater church his unrepentant sin.

As Bill will be held accountable when he stands before our Lord and Savior so will the Institute in Family Life Principles (IBLP) and its leadership for their covering of sin. Through out Scripture God calls all of us to be holy, honest and to proclaim truth. This is regardless of the consequences that it might bring. God continually punished Israel and its leaders for their sins throughout the Old Testament. Some of the punishment was to the future generations such as David's sons. This is also true of Bill, IBLP, its management and Board as they are responsible before God for some of the grievous actions that occurred. In the past year we met with Bill for three days in Denver and have spent over 14 hours in conference and one-on-one calls with him, along with numerous shared emails. There have been other group seek the same repentance parallel to our effort.

Our contact with Bill was initiated by him when he first called us while under pressure for his actions and wanted to reconcile. This has been a pattern of behavior we have seen for the past 35 years. This pattern is to bring his critics into his fold, by attempting to reconcile that way he can silence them. This pattern was memorialized in the "Godfather" movie, "Keep your friends close but your enemies closer". While Bill has the tendency to say all the right words it is with out substance and he continually changes the target and conversation to confuse and make excuses for the issues at hand.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our actions based on Matthew 18:17 to warn the church of the unrepentant sin of a brother. What you do with it is between you and God. We give permission to publish the enclosed statement to Bill toward this command of Christ.

Humble servants of a mighty God,

Larne Gabriel
[phone number and email address redacted]

Bill Wood
[phone number and email address redacted]

Enclosures: 2

■ Matthew 18:17 Statement to Bill Gothard

■ “Biblical Pattern of Reconciliation”, Dr. Chuck Lynch, Living Foundation Ministry, 611 NW R.D. Mize Road, Blue Springs, MO 64014 (used with permission).

Dr. Chuck Lynch is skilled at understanding people and helping them deal with the hurts and hard issues in life both from an intellectual and a biblical perspective. After graduating from Biola College, he received an M.A. and an M. Div. from Talbot Theological Seminary and a D. Min. from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He has served as a pastor, Bible college teacher and administrator and consultant to pastors and Christian leaders who face difficult personal and ministry issues. He is a published author in English and Spanish and has spoken extensively on Christian radio and television. Dr. Lynch shares practical biblical insights into human nature and conflict resolution as he counsels, teaches seminars or trains biblical care givers on five continents. He and his wife Linda have two married daughters and four grandchildren. Dr. Lynch is the author of “I Should Forgive but...” and “You Can Work it Out”

Bio

Bill Wood was a volunteer as usher and committee chairman for Bill Gothard's IBYC/IBLP Los Angeles Basic seminar committee for 5 years of which during three of those years he was employed part time by Gothard. He also served on staff in at the Oak Brook, IL headquarters for 3 ½ years. Mr. Wood oversaw the Publications, Art, IT, Transportation and Registration Departments and oversaw TV Production.

W. Larne Gabriel was the volunteer co-chairman of Gothard's Seattle Basic Seminar committee for 6 years and on staff at the Oak Brook Headquarters for 18 months as a corporate pilot. Larne's late wife Ruth was Gothard's personal secretary for nine and a half years and was one of women who was abused by Gothard's brother in the 1980 Institute scandal. They were married for 13 years prior to her death in 1994. See “Ruth's Story” link: <http://www.recoveringgrace.org/2014/02/ruths-story/>

Both of Bill Wood and Larne Gabriel left the Institute in Basic Youth Conflict in 1980 as a result of the Institute's failure to biblically deal with Bill Gothard's sin and the Institute's covering of sin as related to the 1980 scandal. Both have personally known Bill and have dealt with him for over 40 years.