

**History of Attempts  
to bring charges with required testimony and evidence  
against Rev. Bill Gothard  
pertaining to unrighteous behavior and contrary teachings**

LaGrange Bible Church, LaGrange, Illinois (where Bill Gothard maintained his church membership)  
1981 Winter/Spring (specific date unverified)  
Pastor: Rev. Everett Hovey  
Chairman of Elder Board: Mr. Bob Peach

The LaGrange Bible Church (LBC) telephoned Rev. Chuck Lynch and invited him to fly to Chicago to participate in a LBC elder meeting pertaining to questions they were being asked by letter and phone by pastors and others around the country. Chuck Lynch had been for 5 years the Director of the Ministers Department at the ministry of Bill Gothard (BG), the Institute in Basic Youth Conflicts (IBYC, now IBLP). Chuck Lynch (Chuck) and his family had attended LBC for 7.5 years and were members prior to 1981.

Bill Gothard, over a 15 year period had described the LaGrange Bible church to millions of people attending his Basic Seminar, Advanced Seminar and Ministers Conferences as his spiritual authority and in which he relied for their counsel, spiritual care, and spiritual authority. With news becoming public nationwide in 1980 and by Bill Gothard's own releases of statements, the church of Jesus Christ and the general public become aware of serious problems at the IBYC organization involving gross and long term immorality and mismanagement. There were predictable concerns by church leaders and pastors nationwide, some which contacted directly the LaGrange Bible Church for answers.

The LBC wanted to have Rev. Lynch "answer their questions about Bill Gothard and the facts of the situation." Chuck was at the time serving at Calvary Bible College of Kansas City, MO, where Pastor Hovey was a Board member (also an IFCA affiliated college, as is the LBC). Chuck had been assisted by Pastor Hovey to learn about the CBC job opening. The LBC paid Chuck's airfare to Chicago to attend this called Elder meeting.

When Chuck arrived at the LBC, he waited in the lobby to be called into the Elder meeting. The church phone rang and with no one else available to answer it, Chuck picked up the phone and answered it. He found Bill Gothard calling in to the church. After a short exchange of cordialities the call ended.

Chuck was soon brought into the meeting and introduced do men he mostly knew.

The first man asked a question of Chuck and while Chuck was starting to answer it, a second man interrupted and asked his question. And while Chuck was attempting to address his question, a third man interrupted and exclaimed with some intensity, "you should not be involved in doing anything to hinder such a godly man as Bill Gothard."

With the sequence of these first three men and their questions and comment, Chuck realized the intent of the meeting. Chuck then stated calmly and firmly, "Gentleman, I realize the tone and objectives of this meeting would not be productive or end well. I am going to dismiss myself from the meeting and leave

now.” Chuck left the meeting, with Pastor Hovey following him out. The meeting was over in just a few minutes.

Pastor Hovey then took Chuck to supper where they visited further. During dinner, Pastor Hovey stated his predicament by a question, “What can I do? We are in the middle of a building program (funding) and if we deal with this situation (Bill Gothard and review of charges of disqualification as a minister) we will split this church.”

This is a sad history of the LaGrange Bible Church, choosing cash and funding of a building over conscience and their Biblical responsibility and opportunity to bring correction to a man in great spiritual need.

A few years later, Bob Peach was in Kansas City at CBC for a school board meeting. Chuck spotted Bob Peach in the school cafeteria and greeted him in a friendly manner. Bob Peach responded, “Are you still talking to me?”