

From: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx  
Subject: RE: xxxxxx 12.3.08  
To: JohnB@FBCJAX.COM  
Date: Wednesday, December 3, 2008, 4:34 PM

John - as I discussed on the phone, my wife and I will not be attending services. Despite my daughter singing a solo tonight with her ensemble, we will merely drop her off and then pick her up without coming onto the property ourselves.

I am disappointed and surprised that your committee is not willing to follow-up their accusations by providing me with the reasonable information I have requested. For a committee to arbitrarily accuse members and then ban them from the premises without providing any basis for such action is not Biblical and I doubt is in accordance with any By-laws. Certainly, Matthew 18 has not been followed. In any event, without the by-laws, I am not aware of any authority in our church that compels me to meet with any men before I can come onto the property. Therefore, I believe the trespass warnings, which carry with them the implicit threat of me and my wife being forcibly removed or even arrested for trespassing, is nothing short of coercion and are wrongful efforts to force me, under great duress, to meet with the committee before being provided the reasonable information I am requesting. Of course, I will not be willing to attend such a meeting under these circumstances.

Please understand, that if upon receipt of the by-laws I discover that I am subject to such a committee, I will gladly meet with them and defend myself from these unsupported accusations. Also, since there could be misunderstandings or even honest mistakes as to what was said by me, my wife, or the committee, it will be necessary that the meeting be recorded, or at least have independent witnesses present to protect both the church and myself from later mischaracterizations of what was said and discussed.

As for this matter being ecclesiastical in nature, I would disagree. Your committee has intentionally caused me, my wife and my three children emotional distress by making unsupported accusations against me as discussed above and by banning us from the property. Furthermore, your efforts to coerce me to submit under duress to a group of men without providing me any basis for this may be wrongful under the law. Finally, the only charge made against my wife is that she is associating with her husband, yet she has also been banned from the church property and prohibited from attending services with her children. This treatment of me, my wife and my family, may be actionable and I am considering any civil remedies available under the law should you continue to refuse to provide the information requested while maintaining the trespass warnings.

Sincerely,  
xxxxxxxxxxxxxx  
FBC Jacksonville Member