

Sent on 26/3/02 Elders copy to Roger Ferguson

Dear Pastor,

I write to you in love. I know you are not perfect but I do love you and thank God for your ministry, your anointing and your love for the lost. I love you because I am commanded to love my brothers and sisters in Christ and also to submit to those in authority over me. I have defended you and protected you and have sought to keep my heart pure before God.

Yet I have a warning in my spirit and am compelled to bring it to you, not in judgement, but in love, knowing that I am the greatest of sinners.

Over the years, many have left our body damaged and hurt. Situations, which could have and should have been resolved, have not been. And where restoration and unity should have and could have been sought, they have not.

And the spirit of God is grieved because He loves His people.

Surely we bring disgrace to the body of Christ when divisions cannot be resolved and unity restored. We discredit the authority of God's word when we cannot love and forgive one another in accordance with that word. And we bring shame to the name of Lord Jesus when those who uphold that name cannot apply His grace, humility and love. And forgive me Pastor, but I believe it discredits your own ministry when people see that contrary to the word which is preached, in reality God's love is not strong enough to restore unity and oneness, nor is His grace sufficient to bring healing to the body, and neither is His word to be taken literally.

Pastor I share your vision for WCC and the Wirral, but I believe there is an onus of responsibility upon us to actively seek restoration, even with those who hurt us. And I believe if we will not set the example of humility, especially as leaders, God will surely remove His grace and favour. We must be prepared to turn the tide of loss and grief, which is crippling our body, through humility, repentance and love. Only then will we produce fruit which is in keeping with God's Holy Spirit.

With regard to events of recent months, I implore you pastor in the love of Jesus to actively seek restoration with Ruth and Roger and their family. I believe this is the imperative of the Lord Jesus at this time regardless of the personal cost. I ask this not to the benefit of any individual but for the sake of the Lord Jesus and the future of Wirral Christian Centre as a healthily functioning part of the body of Christ. I believe if we will humble ourselves at this time, God's grace and favour will remain upon us as a body and we will inherit our promises in Him. We will see a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit and His promised revival will not tarry!

And Pastor, I believe with all my heart that if we will not humble ourselves before God and one another, restoring honour to the name of Jesus His son, God will remove the mantle of blessing and authority and may bring to nought our ministry - even in one day!

May God help us as we seek to attain His best.

In His love and service. Julie Ellis-Gowland