

Dear Passion for Truth Family,

It is with great sadness that we need to share some difficult information. Over the past several months substantive allegations of misconduct were brought against Jim Staley.

Although Jim resigned from the board of directors in May 2015, he asserted his “spiritual authority” to maintain full control over the entire organization and its operations. This behavior continued through his incarceration until confirmation that he would not be immediately released from prison in January 2016.

In February 2016, the Trustees along with the Ministry Advisory Council began the process of exploring the possibility of rebranding and restructuring PFT in an attempt to move the organization forward following Jim’s imprisonment. Through this process, several concerns arose that led to a full internal investigation.

During this investigation, the board hired a lawyer and CPA to review all of PFT’s financial transactions and policies. Some expenses that initially received approval were deemed inappropriate. The lawyer and CPA then assisted with reconciling these issues in accordance with the law. New policies and procedures were adopted to ensure such transactions did not happen again. We also found that Jim approved business contracts, received payments, and has shown a pattern of excessive spending of ministry donations without the knowledge of the Board of Trustees. The board is taking the appropriate actions to resolve Jim’s misuse of funds. We have since restructured to allow for increased accountability for that position and to protect the organization and donors.

These financial issues alone are grounds for removal from leadership. (1 Timothy 3:2) In addition, despite his teaching gift, Jim has exhibited several character issues and patterns of sin that do not reflect the scriptural qualifications for an elder or pastor, such as the following:

- Sought personal gain (Titus 1:7; 1 Timothy 3:3; Philippians 2:4)
- Domineering leadership, misuse/abuse of authority (1 Peter. 5:2-3)
- Manipulation and lying (Titus 1:8; Exodus 20:16)
- Quarrelsome/divisive (1 Timothy 3:3; Titus 3:10)
- Pride/lack of humility (Philippians 2:3)
- Failed to make adequate restitution to his former clients (Leviticus 6:1-5; Proverbs 3:27-28)
- Imprisonment for the breaking of Federal Laws (1 Timothy 3:2, 1 Timothy 3:7)

Pastor David Robinson has taken these issues before Jim. Additionally, in an attempt to confront Jim on these matters, per Matthew 18, Pastor David scheduled a meeting at the prison. Jim requested that two additional witnesses be present, thereby accelerating the

scriptural precedent established in Matthew 18 for dealing with sin. During this meeting, Jim showed no remorse and was quite offended at the information presented to him.

These patterns, a lack of humility when confronted (Matthew 18), and no visible, lasting evidence of repentance from these sins reveal that Jim has not been living in a manner that reflects his position as pastor and as an elder in this church.

In our legally governing role as Trustees and as part of this body of believers, along with the spiritual guidance of the Ministry Advisory Counsel, we have made the difficult decision to disassociate from Jim Staley until such time as Jim completes a process of restoration. Further, his disqualification as teacher has led to the removal of his teachings from Passion for Truth's media platforms.

We understand that we have all fallen short of the glory of YHWH. (Romans 3:23) However, those who accept a position of leadership are scripturally held to a higher standard. (James 3:1) We encourage you to join us as we pray for YHWH's grace, Jim's restoration, and the wellbeing of the Staley family.

We believe YHWH desires Jim's restoration and realignment to the Scriptures. This being said, when Jim exhibits humility and repentance, it is our desire to restore him back into relationship to this body of believers. It is our deeply held belief that in order for Jim to qualify as a teacher in any capacity, he must pay full restitution according to Torah and complete his prison sentence in accordance with his guilty plea.

Ultimately, it is our desire to walk and live out love and grace for Jim and his family. We encourage you not to respond in pride, arrogance, or judgment, but rather with humility and compassion. Because this decision affects the entirety of Passion for Truth, and due to the Biblical injunction regarding charges against elders, this letter is being posted publically. (1 Timothy 5:19-21). We ask that you please direct any questions regarding this matter to [info@passionfortruth.com](mailto:info@passionfortruth.com)

Respectfully,

***Board of Trustees Passion for Truth Fellowship, Inc***