

Letter to my FFWPU National Council representative re: the whistleblower report

Celia Roomet
November 21, 2017



Dear Noah [Ross],

I hope all is well. I know how busy you probably are having to deal with the whistleblower crisis, but as my representative, I wanted to send a couple of simple reminders, and ask -- if you think it appropriate -- to share it with the members of the National Council.

This latest crisis is not, in my opinion, about finances. It's not about the \$25 million or the \$2.3 million or the \$40,000 a month salary. It's not about the sale of historical assets or the loss of tax exempt status. It is about the loss of self-respect and the loss of integrity. And the loss of trust. This is far, far more serious because the greatest asset of our church, in my opinion, is its members.

You can be sure that in the days to come, all eyes will be on you. There are many of us who, as much as we love our True Parents and the church, have become worn down, battered by the crises of the last five years or so. Don't let this one become the one that breaks the camel's back. Instead, let it become the change we all want to see.

I promised some reminders, and here's the first: no cover-ups. It is human nature to want to hide things that are embarrassing, hurtful or difficult to face. A cover-up may solve difficult problems in the short run, but when the truth surfaces (and surface it will) you will have earned the disdain of the very people from whom you wanted to hide. Recall In Jin Moon's transgression – that she wanted to have a happy life, a second chance, is something any parent can at least relate to; but the willful, ongoing deceit is much harder to understand, and therefore to forgive.

A second reminder: trust the members. People have a limitless capacity for forgiveness. If wrongs were committed, or if mistakes were made, they can be made right. To be human is to make mistakes; even Father said many times he was not perfect. We can all learn from lapses in judgment, from wrong decisions, but before we can call it a lesson we need to admit the wrong, take stock, reflect on how we got there, and only in that admission and subsequent steps lie the capacity to become whole.

I know nothing of the inner workings of our church at the the national or international levels; I don't know how decisions are made, how leaders are selected, how the Board of Directors conduct their business. But we've had crises before, in 2008 with Hyun Jin (Preston) Moon; then with In Jin Moon in 2012. Isn't now a good time to wonder if the way we conduct business at the national level is an endemic problem that needs to be uprooted?

God works in mysterious ways. Jonathan's letter may prove to be the cold wind that cleanses lingering fogs, fogs that have been around too long. I hope the words of Rev. Buessing in his letter, when he promised the National Council will investigate thoroughly and will keep members apprised of the situation become true.

Best wishes for God's guidance on this difficult task. You have my prayers.