

MBG Church  
Torneystr. 75  
56567 Neuwied  
Germany

For other foundation can no man lay than  
that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 1Cor 3:11

## **Letter of LOVE and TRUTH**

### **To the leaders and pastors of LEFC**

**Eph 4:15 But speaking the truth in love, [you] may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ.**

Dear Brothers,

we greet you in the name of Christ who is the head of every church. Many years we have worked together with you on the basis of love and truth and we had times of joy and blessing.

Our heart is grieved to see that LEFC has shifted from the biblical path of independent church government and is exercising unbiblical authority over local churches and therefore we feel it is our duty to write you this in love and truth:

#### **1) Working through local churches**

In December 2019 Brother Peter has told Pastor Jeyakanth that seeing the path LEFC is going we find it essential to strengthen the authority of local churches. Therefore in the future we want to change the way we help LEFC churches. Decisions should be made together with local church elders and deacons rather than in LEFC head office. Funds for local churches and for all the ministry in the area of a local church should be discussed and handled by local church authorities rather than by LEFC leaders.

Last year in August we got a document from Pastor Jeyakanth about LEFC rules. It was dated from June 28<sup>th</sup> 2020, that means we got it more than one month after issuing. When we read this, we could not agree to some points. Especially we did not agree to the statement that "the office will appoint a person" to do the ministry in a local church. That means, LEFC is claiming a right which they biblically don't have. It is a local churches responsibility to appoint their pastor not LEFC. We were disappointed that Pastor Jeyakanth had not contacted us before and not discussed these statements with us. Br. Peter told him over the phone on August 8<sup>th</sup> 2020: If these are the LEFC rules, we cannot work with LEFC, because the local church is overruled by LEFC leaders, this means LEFC has shifted away from a biblical structure.

We wonder whether Pastor Jeyakanth has shared our concerns with you?

Unfortunately Pastor Jeyakanth was not willing to respond to our concern. Instead of that he sent another letter to us on November 27<sup>th</sup> 2020 titled: "Answers to Questions about the working of LEFC." In this letter we found the concept of strengthening LEFC leadership again rather than strengthening biblical local church leadership. We were disappointed why Pastor Jeyakanth did not discuss these matters with us earlier? This LEFC statement had been written and signed on August 19<sup>th</sup> 2020, why did we get it 3 months later only, without any prior discussion? You will understand that the trust which had been the basis of our relationship has been shaken even more than before.



As a reaction, our church wrote a document called “biblical outlines for church based ministry” which we sent to Pastor Jeyakanth on Dec 14<sup>th</sup> 2020. In this document we explained that our aim is to work with local churches in Sri Lanka on the basis of trust and in a biblical manner.

Has Pastor Jeyakanth communicated this document to you? If not, we are willing to send it to you directly and discuss these principles with you.

## **2) Biblical leadership**

Meanwhile Pastor Jeyakanth was put under church discipline by his local church in London because of his sinful behaviour. The APC church has made clear that they disciplined him not for things which happened in Sri Lanka but which happened in UK. This action was not based on suspicion or rumour, but because of nameable sins which his church elders observed in UK.

Unless there is a good reason to believe APC has acted sinfully other local churches should support their action. So Pastor Jeyakanth should not be allowed to do any ministry in such circumstances, and he should not have any leading role in a church or in a Christian organisation. Therefore we wonder how do you justify keeping him in a leading position?

## **3) Usage of funds**

The funds we have given to LEFC in the last 20 years have been given for the local church use. LEFC has been a channel to do that. For example, if we have funded a church building in a local village, this building has been given exclusively for the use of the local congregation and not as a property to LEFC head office. If LEFC claims that church buildings in local villages belong to LEFC and not to the local congregation it is against our intention. We cannot accept this claim. We therefore declare that all the buildings that have been funded by us are a property of the local congregation.

Moreover, if foreign funds are used by LEFC to give loans to believers and to claim the loans back when they leave LEFC we feel that a misuse of funds is taking place because LEFC is binding people to it's organization. Money should never be a measure to bind people in a Christian ministry. It is our common faith that binds us together in Christ, not money.

## **4) Doctrine**

We heard the accusation from different sides that we have imposed “Mennonite doctrines” in your churches. We wonder what are these “Mennonite doctrines” you have found in our teaching? Please if this claim is true tell us which are these doctrines against to the bible which we have taught in the last 20 years. We are willing to apologize and to correct ourselves. It is an earnest concern for us to follow the biblical doctrine and not to shift away to the left or to the right.

## **5) Partnership**

We strongly believe that CHRIST, not MAN, is the head of every church, every ministry and every mission work. The local church is the highest authority in this world. Biblical leadership is practised through elders and deacons who are appointed by the local congregation. If any church wants to continue their partnership with us on a basis of biblical doctrine, of trust, love and truth, they can contact us through their local church elders to this email-address to discuss further steps:

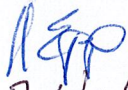
**mbg-church@gmx.de**

*Phil. 2:2-3 Fulfill you my joy, that you be like minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vain glory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves.*

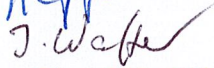
*1Tim 3,14-15: These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly. But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.*

**Council of elders of MBG church, Neuwied, October 20<sup>th</sup> 2021**

Alexander Epp



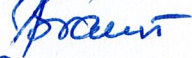
Johann Walter



Heinrich Barg



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