

March 1, 2016

Update on Inter-ecclesial Fellowship Initiative

--- Please share this with all members of your ecclesia. ---

The Mission: With God's help and using His word, bring the Unamended body back together to serve the Lord in Spirit and in Truth, glorifying our Heavenly Father by achieving Scriptural solutions consistent with the BUSF to address the issues affecting Memorial fellowship throughout the Unamended community. Work together as brethren practicing the principles of Christ, to edify and bring peace and cohesion to the Unamended community.

Brethren,

This letter is our third update of the Inter-ecclesial Fellowship Initiative Committee's progress and planning. By way of review, we're still working on: 1) initial planning for regional ecclesial meetings; 2) committee discussions assessing the viability of such regional meetings. This work is being progressed by committee conference calls every 2-3 weeks. As we previously reported, "In order to assess the viability and probability of success for the regional inter-ecclesial meetings, the committee has undertaken a 'beta test' to see if we, as a committee and as brothers representing many of the crosscurrents within our community, can find a common path forward leading to joint fellowship".

Specifically, we've focused much of our recent attention on 2nd John verses 5-11; vss. 9-11 read, *Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.*

After considerable discussion with our Bibles open and in a brotherly spirit, we've developed and wish to share our understanding of these verses in a paper entitled **UNDERSTANDING AND APPLYING 2nd JOHN: 5-11** (attached). We offer this in the spirit of seeking a common understanding which may lead to peace and cohesion in our unamended community. Your participation and guidance are always welcome and helpful, should you care to provide any.

Meanwhile, we'll be devoting our efforts during upcoming conference calls to discussing other difficult subjects such as those mentioned in our second update letter (Cross-Fellowship between BUSF, BASF, UA08, etc.; Contamination by Association; Ecclesial Autonomy or "Independence"; and Belief and/or Acceptance of Doctrinal Error). Our hope would be to continue to share any constructive conclusions with you. In consideration of the signs of the times we must continue to make every reasonable effort, with God's help, to *follow after those things that edify and make for peace.*

In the Hope of Israel,

The Inter-Ecclesial Planning Committee:

Brothers: John Bouma, Scott Cram, Ian Cude, Jim Millay, Art Sankey and Sid Strickland.