

Refuge Church
6955 Portola Road
Atascadero, CA 93422

June 29, 2014

Calvary Chapel Association
3000 W. MacArthur Blvd. Suite 110
Santa Ana, CA 92704

Dear Calvary Chapel Association:

After many months of prayer and consideration, the board of elders at Refuge Church has unanimously voted to disaffiliate from Calvary Chapel. We have come to the conclusion that certain Calvary Chapels are changing and moving in a direction that we do not want to go or be a part of as an affiliate. This is not a judgment on the intents or hearts of other Calvary Chapel pastors or their churches, but rather Refuge Church staying true to our own convictions and to scripture.

The elders' board concluded that we can no longer be affiliated with a movement, which in our view has certain leaders and pastors that are embracing, promoting and partnering with teachers of heresy, and in some cases apostasy. Some of these teachers being embraced, promoted and partnered with include:

1. Rick Warren , who among other blatant heresies has called Christian fundamentalism a great enemy of the twenty-first century.
2. William P. Young, who denies the substitutionary atonement of Jesus Christ on the cross for sinners.
3. Brother Lawrence, a deceased Catholic mystic, who taught unbiblical contemplative prayer derived from pagan eastern religions.
4. Carl Lentz, a word of faith pastor, who refuses to take a stand against the sin of homosexuality.

In Ephesians 5:11 we have been given a biblical mandate to have no fellowship with unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. The deliberate embracing, promotion of, and partnering with these and other teachers of heresy is opposed to what we have been called to in scripture.

Sadly as well, over the years we have seen a continued lack of accountability and gross abuse of the Moses model of church government within certain Calvary Chapels both locally and nationally. This is not to say that there is a perfect church government; there is not. All churches are ultimately led by a flawed man, men or congregation who can only govern correctly if they are being led by the Lord and are striving to be submitted to the Lord in their personal lives. With that said, the Moses model with no accountability is very dangerous. This is not said as a judgment on anyone's heart, but rather is offered in loving admonition after observing the fruit of multiple gross abuses of finances, power, and sexual sin.

Our aim at the end of each day is to be able to lie down with a clear conscience before God. We would be sinning against our consciences if we continued as a Calvary Chapel affiliate. Our prayers will continue to be with the Calvary Chapel churches. We have enjoyed rich fellowship with many other Calvary Chapel churches and pastors in the past and hope that may continue in the future as brothers in the Lord but not as an affiliated church. We are also very grateful for many of the Calvary Chapel distinctives, especially verse-by-verse Bible teaching, in which we will always continue at Refuge Church.

Sincerely,



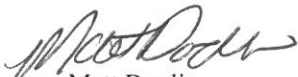
Steve Shively
Senior Pastor / Elder



Larry K. Vizard
Associate Pastor / Elder



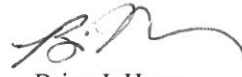
Dwight R. Wingate
Associate Pastor / Elder



Matt Doolin
Elder



Ed Figueroa
Elder



Brian J. Hupp
Elder



Ron Wreesman
Elder