

July 20, 2023

We are angry, hurt, offended, and heartbroken. We have not attended gospel meetings since March. Our family of five has been unable to support a ministry that is unwilling to take responsibility for the damage it has done to countless children, women, and men.

Below is a timeline laying out the removal of our Sunday meeting. We live in MN and were in the St. Paul field.

Sunday July 9 - Morning meeting at our home, workers present.

Sunday July 9 - Received a text from a couple in our meeting at 7:29 pm that stated "I feel bad because it feels like you are uncomfortable with us there. Is there anything we can do? Would you want to chat in person?" We replied, "not uncomfortable with you there at all! Just simply being in meeting is hard right now. We'd love to chat in person...would you like to come for supper and a bonfire this week Thursday or Friday?"

Thursday July 13 - Couple came for supper and discussion lasted all evening.

Monday July 17 - Received a text from the couple at 8:35 pm that read, "Wondering if you can come over tomorrow eve? The workers want to visit with all 4 of us." We replied at 10:37 pm, "It seems like it would be right for us to speak with them first, I have invited them for a visit tomorrow night."

Monday July 17 - We texted workers at 10:32pm, "I understand from [the couple] that you would like to talk with us. I think it would be best if you two would come here for a bonfire chat sometime after supper that works for you tomorrow. Is there something we should be considering before we meet?"

Tuesday July 18 - Received a text from workers at 7:53 pm, "Thanks, Evan. It will be good to visit."

Tuesday July 18 - 7:00 pm - We sat in our backyard with the workers and were informed they were removing the Sunday meeting from our home. The meeting would stay together and be moved to the above referenced couple's home.

When asked why, because some are uncomfortable.

When asked who, they gave three names in addition to the couple.

When asked what we did wrong, "it's just a feeling".

When they said "the flock is crying" and we cried out: you're leaving us for the 99!, they said "we hope we wouldn't leave the 1 or the 99".

Wednesday July 19 - We called the three individuals named. The first had sensed a change and felt the Spirit had left the meeting after the Dean Bruer news was made known (approx March 24). The next had been called by the couple, prior to July 18, and was asked if they'd noticed a change in the Spirit. They had felt a change but understood it, given the current events that we are all processing. They did not feel uncomfortable. The final expressed to us that our home was the only home they would feel comfortable going to meeting at and that what was shared about them was blatantly false.

Thursday July 20 - We called the remainder of the meeting. We were unable to connect with one of the remaining twelve. All eleven were a combination of: shocked, dismayed, distraught, sad, horrified, dumbfounded, and in disbelief that the meeting would be removed and not one stated that they were uncomfortable in any way meeting in our home. These conversations lead us to believe that the workers made very little attempt, if any, to understand the heart of the whole meeting.

This is not what we wanted. We did not ask for the meeting to be removed. While we don't want the meeting back, we feel it necessary that the truth of the situation be made known. We asked for Jesus to be upheld. We asked for transparency. We asked for acknowledgement. We asked for honesty. It grieves us beyond words to be betrayed. We

have loved freely and deeply. We will miss our time of weekly fellowship with those we love, but are thankful that fellowship with the One we love cannot be taken away. The workers have requested that we not portray this as having been “callously ripped from your hands.” It wasn’t. Rather than cut the baby in two, we gave it freely, per their request.

Let the light of Jesus shine,

Shannon and Evan Anderson