

On Mar 14, 2019, at 10:55 AM, Stephen Stewart <[ssewart@walkintheword.com](mailto:ssewart@walkintheword.com)> wrote:

Elders:

Thank you for inviting me to your meeting last night. I honestly believe the most damaging anchor holding Harvest back currently is our inability to announce the final departure of Pastor James. With that belief in mind, I have rearranged an email stream, from yesterday, so you can read from the top to the bottom. I will then add some thoughts from last night's meeting at the bottom. Thank you.

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**From:** Stephen Stewart

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019 10:40 AM

**To:** Jeff Sharda <[jsharda@harvestbiblechapel.org](mailto:jsharda@harvestbiblechapel.org)>; Rick Korte <[rkorte@harvestbiblechapel.org](mailto:rkorte@harvestbiblechapel.org)>;  
Christopher Nudo <[cnudo@harvestbiblechapel.org](mailto:cnudo@harvestbiblechapel.org)>; Smith Jeff [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Carl Barkow <[cbarkow@harvestbiblechapel.org](mailto:cbarkow@harvestbiblechapel.org)>; Mike Karpeles [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: [Test] Important Update at Walk in the Word

Gentlemen:

I have not spoken to Pastor James in several weeks, that being said, we all know he is extremely anxious to get control of WITW, his future source of income. I continue to remind myself: this is a negotiation. The more we can remove emotion from the equation, the better outcome we will achieve.

Pastor James has spent 20 years building the WITW brand. Millions of people have been exposed to his teaching on radio and TV. I would suggest Pastor James' negotiation goals, in order of importance are:

- MPX donor database – this allows him to communicate via email and see donor history
- WITW social media accounts – this allows him to communicate via social media
- 450 ready-to-be-uploaded sermons – this allows him to announce WITW is operational
- 501C-3 – this gives him the immediate ability to accept donations
- \$400k inventory – this provides him with immediate gifts to entice Change Partners
- Son-in-law – Nick Mejia knows how to make it all work and is joining the “family business”
- The \$100k in the 501C-3 – this gives him working capital

WITW has no real value to HBC. I know some have suggested we could upload Erwin Lutzer messages, but that is not really beneficial. The only things of real value are the \$2M cash and the \$100k cash. We have great negotiating leverage right now. Consider these recent developments:

• We now have the TBN money. This was Pastor James' biggest bargaining chip, and it is gone

• He just discovered we have stopped receiving WITW donations as of March 1, and he is scared

• He is aware of a possible “disqualified” notice going to former WITW donors, and he is petrified

I would like to suggest our desired outcome can be crystallized into these points:

• HBC retains WITW cash

• HBC avoids arbitration, or worse, with Pastor James

• Pastor James is prohibited from defaming HBC, its elders, or its leaders

• He agrees to pay taxes on all items deemed “personal inurement” from HBC and WITW

• He agrees to indemnify HBC et al from any and all lawsuits related to his tenure at HBC

• He agrees to walk away from the Rabbi trust money

We are in a strong negotiating position. The threat of sending a “disqualified” email to the WITW donor base is powerful leverage. We should use it to drive this negotiation to a conclusion. Thank you,

**Stephenstewart**