

D Barnett File

(e. 6 to 1959)

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR KING COUNTY

DONALD L. BARNETT

v.

Plaintiff,

NO. 88-2-04148-2

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JACK A. HICKS, JACK H. DuBOIS and E. SCOTT HARTLEY, individually and as the Board of Directors of COMMUNITY CHAPEL AND BIBLE TRAINING CENTER,

Defendants.

DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF DONALD L. BARNETT IN OPPOSITION TO COMMUNITY CHAPEL'S MOTIONS FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT

I, Donald L. Barnett, declare:

- I make this declaration based on my own personal knowledge and am competent to testify to the matters stated in this declaration. This declaration is in opposition to the defendants' motions for partial summary judgment, specifically responds to the Declaration of Catreena Bingaman, and the Declaration of David Motherwell in Opposition to Barnett's Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings.
- It is not possible to understand the allegations of 2. sexual misconduct made against me, nor the Declaration of Catreena Bingaman, without some understanding of a special phenomenon which occurred at Community Chapel. EXHIBIT

DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF DONALD L. BARNETT IN OPPOSITION TO COMMUNITY CHAPEL'S MOTIONS FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT - 1

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- 4. In the beginning of 1985, after two years of intensive prayer retreats, God began to sovereignly pour out his love on us in new ways: loving us through one another, connecting us powerfully together in the Spirit.
- 5. Unfortunately, unbelief, legalism, sexual weaknesses, carnality, insecurity, hurts in marriages, and so forth, gave the devil open doors to attack the saints' vulnerabilities -- and through weaknesses of the flesh, destroy much of the great good that God was able to do in the church. Many members and families were greatly helped, and many were greatly hurt--but most of those greatly hurt said they would not have passed up the increased love for Jesus and the saints to avoid the hurts and temptations of the devil, for they were now more spiritual and much more in love with Jesus, having been tried, having failed, and having discovered the end of their strength--and having repented and repaired the breach.
- 6. The history of the church is one of the saints being tested under fire, whenever God sends a revival and moves upon

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- 7. I did not originate this doctrine or practice of spiritual uniting we called "spiritual connections," and did not experience this phenomenon initially. Rather, this scriptural doctrine was started sovereignly by God, Himself, in our satellite church in Kansas. It began to occur (without any teaching on the subject) at the mother church in Seattle and in other satellite churches. Others in my church experienced it months before I did. Once I experienced it, I found many references to it in the Bible and I began to teach on it.
- 8. A spiritual connection is the spiritual union of two human spirits with each other and the spirit of God. I believe that spiritual connections are a necessary practice for any church that seeks the most spiritually intimate place in the Bridehood of Jesus (as pre-figured by the Shulemite in The Song of Solomon). As with many high, spiritual experiences, connections caused a tension between the spirit and the flesh (Gal. 5:17) the result was much spiritual ecstacy, but also jealousy, which was in turn caused by poor marriages. Jealousy resulted in accusations and accusations resulted in family disputes. This occurred even within marriages where both mates believed that they had experienced genuine spiritual connections. These disputes divided husband

DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF DONALD L. BARNETT IN OPPOSITION TO COMMUNITY CHAPEL'S MOTIONS FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT - 3

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- 9. At the beginning, I imposed numerous legalistic restrictions on spiritual connections. I was concerned that the practice might lead to problems because of the weaknesses of the flesh. I was opposed in this matter by the elders, specifically by John Bergin and others, who opposed any restoration of previous restrictions, or adherence to existing restrictions.
- The following is the true account of my relationship with Catreena Bingaman: the worship services at Community Chapel included dancing in the Spirit. When this happens, the Spirit of the Lord draws two people together. It is a very powerful spiritual experience. During one worship service, I was worshipping with another lady, who was my spiritual connection. Catreena Bingaman was dancing in the Spirit with another man, perhaps 20 or 30 feet away from me. I happened to look over at her at the same time she looked at me. eyes met and we both knew by the Spirit that we should be This was not a sexual or romantic worshipping together. experience; it was a spiritual experience. We waited until that song was over and then worshipped together for several This was a very powerful experience and impacted us enormously. This kind of spiritual experience impacts the spirit. But the natural man, having only experienced natural

DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF DONALD L. BARNETT IN OPPOSITION TO COMMUNITY CHAPEL'S MOTIONS FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT - 4

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DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF DONALD L. BARNETT IN OPPOSITION TO COMMUNITY CHAPEL'S MOTIONS FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT - 5

love in romance, friendly love, or sexual love, can be overwhelmed and confused by such new powerful spiritual experiences. This happened to Catreena. She went about the office singing that she was in love with the pastor and she began an ardent pursuit of me. The only confusion one experiences in understanding the love they feel from God to another is to what extent that love is natural or spiritual. Everyone at the chapel had been taught very clearly that sex has no part in spiritual experiences.

- 11. Catreena's declaration states that I told her that I needed more time alone with her. This is completely false.
- 12. Catreena's declaration states at paragraph 4 that I came to the Publications Department and took her to a private room. This never happened. There is no private room in the Publications Department, and there is no way that I could walk into a busy department of the church and ask a female employee to speak to me in private. There were occasions on which I went to the Publications Department, almost always for other business purposes, and while I was there, spoke with Catreena.
- 13. Catreena's declaration describes at paragraph 5 an account of what she describes as "the first time Barnett committed adultery with me." There was only one incident in which I had sexual contact with Catreena. It did occur at the parsonage, but everything else in paragraph 5 is false. I never pulled her to the floor or claimed that sexual contact

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14. I repented to God with remorse for allowing Catreena to entice me into the sin of adultery—I never intended that. I admit fault, but I vehemently deny that it was any kind of a breach of fiduciary duty or breach of employment contract, or tortious in any way. My relationship with Catreena began as a spiritual connection. When we strayed into a carnal relationship, it had nothing to do with the church. I never used my pastoral role or any corporate role to influence Catreena or take advantage of her.

15. Everything in paragraph 6 of Catreena's declaration is false. I never told her that she could have anything she wanted, and I certainly had no practical ability to increase her salary or elevate her position or have the church pay her wages during vacations. I never offered her any special benefits as an employee of Community Chapel. Catreena did not

DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF DONALD L. BARNETT IN OPPOSITION TO COMMUNITY CHAPEL'S MOTIONS FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT - 6

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16. I never told Catreena that the time she spent with me on vacation would be paid for by the church, or that she would be paid wages for vacation time with me. I did invite her on one occasion to go on vacation with me in Florida, as I invited other spiritual connections to join me on vacation. I offered to pay personally for her vacation, an offer which I extended to any of my spiritual connections who accompanied me on vacation. I never said that the church would pay for her vacation. I never told Catreena not to tell her husband, the elders, or the counseling center anything. I never gave her any presents.

17. Paragraph 7 of Catreena's declaration is completely false. There was no second adultery, nor any third. I never suggested to Catreena that she have sexual intercourse with me as a means of "ministering" to me. I have never asked any

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- 18. Paragraph 8 of Catreena's declaration is completely false. I never told Catreena not to tell anyone about our relationship, and I never threatened to disfellowship her if she told anyone.
- 19. Paragraph 9 of Catreena's declaration is completely false.
- 20. I must also correct several of the many misstatements in the Declaration of David Motherwell in Opposition to Barnett's Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings. I will not try to correct all of Motherwell's falsehoods—the declaration is filled with so many false statements, that time and space prevent me from denying them one by one. My purpose in this declaration is only to deny the falsehoods which are important for the purposes of the motions for summary judgment.
- 21. Mr. Motherwell incorrectly describes my remarks during the address to the congregation on February 28, 1988.

DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF DONALD L. BARNETT IN OPPOSITION TO COMMUNITY CHAPEL'S MOTIONS FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT - 8

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At paragraph 9 of his affidavit, Motherwell incorrectly states that I said that I had been warned by the elders that I could be disfellowshipped. I never said this, because no one had ever suggested to me that I could be disfellowshipped. not believe that any of the elders or senior elders (or Motherwell, who was not an elder) thought that I could be disfellowshipped under the Articles and Bylaws of Community Chapel. If they had thought they could disfellowship me, they would not have skulked around in secret meetings, plotting with attorney Jim Leach how they could get rid of me. If they had thought they could disfellowship me, they would not have gone to the elaborate charade of holding a "meeting" of the Board of Senior Elders at my house at which they claim to have "voted" to amend the Bylaws by cryptically asking one another how they "voted," without ever stating the subject of the vote and without ever reading the proposed amendment to the If they had thought they could Articles of Incorporation. disfellowship me, they would not have run down to Olympia to file their illegal amendment of the articles, and then held a secret meeting to adopt elaborate changes to the Bylaws designed to remove any protections to me. If they had thought they could disfellowship me, they would not have written me a letter on March 4 announcing their decision and stating that disfellowshipping me was not contrary to any provision of the Bylaws according to the amendments they had just adopted. short, they never thought they could disfellowship me, never

DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF DONALD L. BARNETT IN OPPOSITION TO COMMUNITY CHAPEL'S MOTIONS FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT - 9

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told me they thought they could disfellowship me, and so I never said I have been warned I could be disfellowshipped.

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Mr. Motherwell falsely states that he had warned me that I could be disfellowshipped if I refused to abide by I repeat: no one had ever suggested to me special status. that I could be disfellowshipped. Motherwell's declaration is inconsistent with a letter he wrote to me on March 4, 1988, the day the senior elders illegally voted to disfellowship me. In that letter, which is Exhibit 30 to the Motherwell Deposition, he never states that he had warned me I could be disfellowshipped. To the contrary, Motherwell states in the letter:

personally recommended this [disfellowshipping] to the Senior Elders and the entire board of Elders as an act of mercy for your own soul and as a act of responsibility to God and His people. It was pointless for me to warn you of such after your Sunday sermon and given the former construction of the church bylaws.

Motherwell would never had said that it was "pointless" to warn me about disfellowshipping if he had already warned me.

I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of Washington, that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATEI) at		this		day	oi
December,	1990	•		٠		

DONALD L. BARNETT

Signed faxed page in possession of counsel, this page will be replaced with original signature page when it becomes available.

DECLARATION OF PLAINTIFF DONALD L. BARNETT IN OPPOSITION TO COMMUNITY CHAPEL'S MOTIONS FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT - 10

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