

Ian & Debbie Brinksmann--Submission to Toronto Review Panel

October 29th, 2006

Dear Brothers,

I would like to respond to the "Warning letter of quarantine" against Brother Titus Chu that was recently distributed and posted on the Internet. My wife Debbie and I have personally known Brother Titus since 1988. I say personally because we may have been in conferences given by him before then, but we were not personally related to him. We have both attended his conferences and have been impressed with his love and genuine care for the saints he serves. Although we did not always "like" what we heard from our brother (in ministering Brother Titus usually touches the very core of our heart issues), we most definitely have grown in our love, experience and appreciation for Christ and His church, both locally and universally.

Brother Titus' care for us as a couple was never more pronounced than when we were deciding whether or not to serve the Lord full-time. We met with him both in 1989 and in 1997. On both occasions we never had any feeling that our brother was in any way twisting our arms to go a certain way. We simply wanted to be "clear" as to what we should do. He simply directed us to the Lord's presence. He was quite aware of our desire to be "clear", but knew that only in the Lord's presence could we have the word and strength to go forward. He helped us to cut through all of our superficial concerns and find a living and present Christ who was very clear as to what He was calling us to do. In spite of the difficulties we have encountered in our journey as a full-time couple, that time in the Lord's presence sustains us to this day. In our care for the saints we often have to chuckle as we find our care for them following a similar course and action as we received from Brother Titus.

I believe we as Christians are all privileged to have God-given spiritual parents. I believe it is only fair for me to say that one of our (my wife and my) fathers is Brother Titus. Yet in saying such a thing, I add this, and I do so with much assurance and even with boldness, that he never even hinted at the fact that he should or was our only father. To me, one test of a minister who participates in the New Testament ministry is that they bring you into the enjoyment of others who share in such a ministry. To this end I can say that I have the greatest appreciation for Brother's Nee and Lee, not so much based upon my own personal contact with these brothers, but due to Brother Titus' ministry.

Brother Titus has also helped many saints that I personally know, some of whom I presently serve together with. Having served the young people both in Toronto and the wider area since 1989, I can testify that in my experience Brother Titus has taken a keen interest in perfecting those of us who labour in this field. Our brother not only speaks to uplift our vision, but puts himself alongside us to do likewise. On one such occasion he cautioned some young serving saints of the tragedy of being lukewarm churchgoers, exhorting them to give themselves freely to the Church and to pray desperately to know the Lord's will here in Toronto. The result of this kind of care and the subsequent prayer of these young serving saints were the young people's "INFUSE" events in Toronto. Through these events young people responded not merely in passive attendance, but rather, aggressively to re-consecrate themselves to the Lord, to serve Him as He has gifted them, and to pray desperately for their family members, friends and classmates. Recently, at one of these times the young people saw 50 of their friends come to join them for the day, and many received the Lord Jesus that evening. At another of these times an entire Caucasian family was gained to love Him, not to mention the others who received the Lord that evening! Brothers, when was the last time a Caucasian family was gained for the Church in Toronto? I feel that the present direction of the young

people's work in Toronto will reverse our long history of losing our second generation (especially among non-Asian, non-immigrant families.) As an aside, permit me to add that I realize some families are "not comfortable" with our present direction, yet (while seeking to minimize any offence) we must look at the overall benefit presently and in the future. Although our brother, Titus was not present for any of these young people's events, one cannot deny the fruit of his labour at least indirectly through raising up the young peoples' serving ones.

In addition, I can also testify that many of those presently serving the young people, and the young people themselves have profited greatly from our brother's ministry. His annual college trainings, conducted annually in Montreal, inspire young people to deeply love the Lord, while steadfastly standing firm for the church in their place. I know some young ones who were on the verge of leaving the church life, yet were rescued from "the edge" through our brother's ministry. I know others whose ministering ability flourished due to our brother's perfecting. The college training has been a tremendous source of encouragement, exhortation and enlightenment to the college-aged in Toronto. In spite of his deep love for these saints, Brother Titus regularly rebukes them for their second generation arrogance and complacency, while inspiring them to pour out their lives on others. His goal is clearly not to raise up loyal followers, but to raise up a generation who will be faithful to the Master, who will invest themselves entirely in the gospel for the increase of the local church, and who have a heart to care for mankind. These college trainings have definitely resulted in an increase in the time, energy and prayer spent by many younger saints invested in the church here in Toronto.

I know it is understood by all of you that appreciation of a ministry is a very personal matter, since it is intimately connected to a person. If we take a moment to examine the person who is under consideration for quarantine, I believe we will see how utterly flawed this suggestion is. Of course, we all recognize that every man is flawed due to the effects of sin, and I in no way want to uplift any brother in an improper way.

Titus' enduring attitude of servant-hood contrasts starkly to many others. His very person is a reminder to us of what it is to be completely poured out for the Lord. Many times, I myself as a young brother before the Lord, seek that I may be poured out in like manner. To me, our brother lives the reality of making each day count before the Lord. How could we not be impressed with his tireless investment in the saints? Regardless of age, person or consecration our brother deems each saint as being worthy of being perfected for the Lord.

Titus' humility toward himself, toward his mentors and toward those who despise him is a rarity. In both private and corporate settings alike, Brother Titus always encourages saints to love the brothers no matter what.

In our work with the young people Brother Titus has not insisted we follow some prescribed and sanctioned set of practices. He always gives those leading the young people the liberty to follow the Lord in this matter, trusting rather the divine life to regulate us where necessary and to lead us at all times. Surely we would all hope to receive and give such liberty and generality as we struggle to follow the Lord. It is only fair to let you know that even though Brother Titus gives us this liberty, we also extend to him the same liberty to question our practices. Brother Titus does not enjoy our style of music, yet as he sees the Spirit moving in and among the young people, so he allows us to continue, even though he himself is criticized for doing so.

Our Brother Titus also instills in those he serves a deep understanding that throughout all trials and tribulation, there is no greater joy, no higher purpose than to be a servant of the Lord.

In conclusion brothers, allow us to simply say that with such a brother and ministry among us who is available and willing to help and perfect us, why would we not avail ourselves of him and his ministry? Why would we want help from brothers who are spitefully driven to purge brother after brother who interferes with their backroom plans? In light of such motives I can only wonder who is the next on their "hit list"? I may not be here to witness who it will be, but you can be assured that any group who takes this path is doomed to follow it to its inevitable conclusion. Personally I have no time for this as the earth is filled with millions of unsaved. Only the Lord knows how many people in Toronto alone have not been saved due to this kind of wanton waste of time. Brothers, were it not clear already from this letter, let me say unequivocally—I recommend that we readily, whole-heartedly and warmly continue to receive help from Brother Titus Chu since not one person has yet given one shred of Biblical evidence to support any action of quarantine. Some may not appreciate his heart to raise up the saints he serves, but we do. We have both witnessed personally and corporately in ones we have served how profitable our brother's ministry is. In this age of political correctness, I am disgusted to see saint after saint aligning themselves in a manner which is "right" for this time. Those who are worried about such things as music infiltrating the church should take a long, hard look in the mirror. Although some find it convenient at this time to deny or brush-off the help they have received from our Brother Titus, for our own sake, for the sake of our own children, for the sake of those we serve with, and for the sake of those we serve, I hope we, as the Church in Toronto will not deny the help we have received from the Lord through this faithful minister! We simply give the Lord all the glory He deserves for what He has done through and in our lives, and in the lives of so many we know.

Your brother in Christ,

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& Debbie Brinksman