

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Sunday, October 7, 2012 7:37 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: James MacDonald and Harvest Bible Chapel ...

Dear Pastor Chandler,

Given your involvement with The Gospel Coalition, my writing partner and I thought you would find this to be of interest. Over the past few months, we have been working on a lengthy and well-documented piece about the financial issues surrounding Harvest Bible Chapel. We are publishing our findings on a website these evening. You will find a link to the site below. While we tell the story through our voice, former congregants, staff members and elders have all assisted us by providing data along with extensive documentation to substantiate the narrative.

As someone that attended Harvest for many years and helped to plant two of their churches, I am disturbed by what we have discovered; and I am even more disturbed that he is being held up as a model for other pastors to emulate (The Resurgence Conference). I do hope you will take the time to read through this piece, and I do hope that after reading it through you might consider giving this piece some coverage at the Gospel Coalition website.

www.theelephantsdebt.com

Your brother in Christ,
Scott Bryant

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Oct 8, 2012 at 2:17 PM
Subject: re: James MacDonald and Harvest Bible Chapel ...
To: <bloodstainedink@gmail.com>
Cc: [REDACTED]

Scott,

Thanks for sending this to me. I haven't read through all of it. I wanted to get your basic premise and then hear your heart behind it. I might not agree with decisions made by James or the elders at HBC but I have no intention of drawing any attention to your blog and if I can in any way deflect others from giving it "coverage" I will use my influence to that end. It's unhelpful and maybe even harmful. I have to believe that you love our great King and are genuinely concerned but taking this public as a kind of expose isn't the way I believe these things should be handled in the body. Any expectation you have of this being useful should be reevaluated. This will not lead to repentance, this will only serve to push people to the fringes where helpful discourse is impossible and ignorance and aggression will take over the conversation. For my own accountability and protection I have copied Brian Miller on this email. He is the chairman of our elders and a ferocious man of God. These are busy times for all of us so I am not looking for a rebuttal or a conversation on this topic. Again thanks for sending this to me and I pray you will reconsider.

Christ is All,

Matt Chandler
Lead Pastor

The Village Church