

LETTER OF NOVEMBER 10TH, 1998 TO THE PASTORS GROUP IN OSLO

November 10, 1998

Dear brothers and friends!

First of all I want to thank you for good times during 1998. It has meant a lot to me to identify with a group of pastors and Christian leaders on the personal level.

Leif Larsen called me on November 5th on behalf of the whole Pastors Group to convey that I would not be allowed to continue in the group any more. I understood from him, and others that I have talked with, that this is primarily to give some of you the safe environment that you feel is necessary to be able to continue in the group. Apparently, having me in the group is a burden.

I am writing to all of you now, however, to ask you to reconsider this decision. The background for me daring to ask you about this, is naturally that I know before God and you all that I have not abused my relationship with you. The fact that I had to shout “fire, fire!” in a matter that you all in hindsight know was caused by gross deception by our former leader, Kjell Aasmundrud, should’t be damaging to the security and unity in a group???

My sense is that we all have reason to – myself included – to examine our lives with the serious situations we have been through as a background. In such a process of repentance there should not be “losers” and “winners”, nor should we “tackle the man instead of taking the ball”, and we should definitely not pull

out of, nor pressure others out of, a fellowship that is dear to us. If we are able to move on together in an atmosphere of mutual understanding, forgiveness and reconciliation, that will lead to the beauty and greatness of Christ coming forth in our broken lives. This is my prayer, and I believe yours also. Perhaps we through this can learn to appreciate the different giftings in Christ's Body in a deeper and more practical way. I need you all – and perhaps you need me.

Naturally I will accept a decision to maintain the exclusion of me. But with sorrow and pain.

I pray for God's mercy and wisdom for us all.

Brotherly greetings,

Jan-Aage