

Pastor Rush Statement to IBOC Church

Sunday, September 20, 2020

IBOC Church Family, we are celebrating 30 years of consistent, effective, Bible-based ministry. Throughout these years, our church has served many - and we continue to be a launching pad for countless men, women, and children from all backgrounds and family dynamics. Since 1990 and still today, we are fulfilling our mission of being fishers of men, which means we boldly proclaim that Jesus loves you without exception. We treat others with the utmost respect, dignity and kindness without exception. That is the way of Christ and that is the IBOC way.

I was recently contacted by a local news outlet regarding a story that has been published with allegations of misconduct dating back 25 years or more.

While I do not like what is going on, I do want to make you aware that I have hired an attorney who will be a guide in this matter. I have been advised to not speak on the matter.

As anyone knows, if they know me at all, I stand boldly on Christian character, conduct and conversation and will, therefore, **NOT** disparage anyone's names. The bible is my manuscript for life. As Christians, we know that trials and tribulations simply have to be endured as we pray for others in that process.

Countless families, churches, schools and communities have been helped because of our servant hearts and commitment to the ministry of Jesus Christ. We will continue to make a positive difference, especially in the lives of those who still need hope, encouragement and the message of the Savior.

I will continue to preach the gospel and be undeterred from the call that God has placed on my life. I do ask that you withhold rash judgments and opinions. Remember who we are in Christ, and do not fall prey to the temptation of gossip or loose talk concerning this matter. In the meantime, keep your faith in God's Word, and keep your peace of mind. Please use your time to pray fervently to uplift me, my family, our church and the community of people we continue to serve – always conducting ourselves according to the Word system and not the world system.

I am so honored to be your pastor, IBOC Church. In my closing, it is on my heart to say: "Obedience to this Word is the only weapon that I have." God Bless, IBOC Family.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richie B. Rush". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.