

Dear Members of the Board of Ligonier,

We, the undersigned, are current students of Reformation Bible College. We are writing to express concern over the recent events surrounding the end of Dr. Stephen Nichols' tenure. Our goal in this letter is to bring unity to Ligonier and Reformation Bible College under the banner of Jesus Christ and his truth (Ephesians 4:3, 25). We do not write to divide or destroy, but in an attempt to bring light to the questions and fears expressed by many Reformation Bible College students.

On March 11, we were notified that our president, and beloved professor and leader, would be exiting his position. Dr. John Tweeddale, after chapel service, stated that the board had met with Dr. Stephen Nichols and decided for his tenure to end. Therefore, we direct this simple question to the board: Why is Dr. Nichols no longer our president?

Let us be clear before going any further: we are not asking for the details of the church discipline case concerning Dr. Stephen Nichols. Nor are we asking for a public statement on any of the affairs of St. Andrews' Chapel. As students, we recognize that the church's internal affairs are not our issues to adjudicate. We are simply asking for clear information concerning our president. Here is a list of direct questions for which we are seeking answers that would clarify this issue:

- 1) Did Dr. Stephen Nichols resign by his own choice, or was he asked to resign?
- 2) If he did resign by choice, why hasn't Ligonier clearly communicated that decision, instead saying only that "his tenure will end" and immediately removing him from the website?
- 3) If he did resign by his own choice, why has he not once appeared publicly since that moment not even to say goodbye to his students?
- 4) If Dr. Nichols was asked to resign by the board, what reasons was he given? (1 Tim 5:19-20)
- 5) Did this decision have anything to do with Dr. Nichols' excommunication from St Andrews' Chapel?
- 6) If so, why was he asked to resign when others under church discipline remain in positions of leadership at Ligonier (i.e., Dr. Burk Parsons remaining on the board of directors while being under the discipline of the PCA)?
- 7) What specific information can you give us about the process or details of this case to help re-establish trust in the personnel decisions of Ligonier and RBC?

Among students, there is a feeling of unrest and distrust about the way personnel decisions are made at Ligonier and RBC. It seems that the leadership of St. Andrews' Chapel is making decisions at Ligonier. We students fear that we or our faculty could be reprimanded, blacklisted, or even expelled if we speak up about what we see as issues. Please help us allay these fears. Please in the vein of the Scriptures and our Reformed traditions, bring the truth to light (John 3:21, Lev 5:1, Zech 8:16-17, Psalm 119:163, WLC Q&A #143-145, HC Q&A #112).

We are seeking a student-wide announcement clarifying these issues and answering the simple questions posed in this letter.

May the Lord watch over Ligonier and Reformation Bible College and bless them,

The Undersigned Students