



WATCHTOWER

BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

PHONE: (02) 605 1099

BOX 280, INGLEBURN, N.S.W. 2565 AUSTRALIA

A.C.N. 002 861 225

FAX: (02) 829 3616

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The Body of Elders
Beenleigh East Congregation
of Jehovah's Witnesses — Qld

Dear Brothers:

Thank you very much for the letter regarding Mr. BCH.
Your comments have been most helpful. He has again written to us and we will enclose a copy of his latest letter.

From what you say, he still has a problem telling the truth. You mention he denied that he had "slept along side the sister. The very next morning he rang Brother Baker's home and confessed to sleeping along side her." He needs to reinforce in his heart the importance of following Jehovah's standard of truthfulness and hatred of lying. You indicate his health problems may effect his memory. If this is the case, this should be taken into consideration.

Regarding the offenses with his teenage daughter, we understand you have information from the elders in Mareeba on this matter. Mr. BCH says he is willing to go to Mareeba to meet with the elders there if need be. This would be a personal decision. However, if he did choose to visit Mareeba, no doubt the brothers could clarify this point.

Caution is required when a disfellowshipped person continues to mislead the elders. Page 182 of the publication Pay Attention to Yourselves and To All the Flock indicates that elders considering pleas for reinstatement should look at "the overall pattern whether the person is repentant over wrongdoing of which he really was guilty or for which clear evidence existed." Even though a disfellowshipped person may deny certain matters raised during the original judicial committee hearing for which there was no positive proof, if his overall pattern indicates that he has Jehovah's forgiveness and is genuinely repentant, consideration can be given to reinstatement. A very fine discussion of godly repentance is found in Insight On The Scriptures (Volume 2) under the heading "Repentance."

Be assured of our appreciation for the time and effort you spend in caring for these important matters. We pray Jehovah may bless your desire to carry out his will. If you believe we can be of further assistance, do not hesitate to correspond with us. We will send a copy of our letter to the elders in Mareeba so they are aware of our thinking. Please accept our warm Christian love and greetings.

Your brothers,

cc: The Body of Elders
Mareeba Cong. — Qld
Encl.

Watchtower B.S. Society
OF AUSTRALIA