


**Ray's \$250,000 Email**

Wednesday, January 13, 2010 11:41 PM

From: "Jack Nordby" <jacknordby@hotmail.com>  
 To: "Ray Johnston" <rayj@baysideonline.com>



Dear Bayside Church,

It has been brought to my attention that Pastor Ray Johnston has crossed an ethical line when it comes to biblical principles in his recent email letter to the Bayside Church Family. Was Ray inspired by the Holy Spirit when writing to his "Bayside Family" in his plea for \$250,000

or was he inspired by the success of Rick Warren's recent letter to the Saddleback Church?

His letter plagiarizes the letter of Rick Warren from Saddleback Church.

To plagiarize according to Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary is to:

***steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own***

Compare the following statements made in both letters.

Rick Warren's newsletter dated December 30th, 2009 is in blue text.

Ray Johnston's email to Bayside members dated January 12, 2010 is in green text.

Rick Warren writes this on 12/30/09:

This is an urgent letter unlike any I've written in 30 years.

Ray Johnston writes this on 01/12/10:

I don't send letters like this without a lot of thought. In fact, this is the only email like this I've sent in my 15 years as your pastor.

Not much thought but perhaps a lot of copying and pasting.

Rick Warren writes this on 12/30/09:

Please read all of it and get back to me in the next 48 hours.

Ray Johnston writes this on 01/12/10:

**Please read all of it and respond as quickly as you can.**

Rick Warren writes this on 12/30/09:

I have thrilling news to share with you below but first some seriously bad news:

Ray Johnston writes this on 01/12/10:

I have stunningly good news to share with you, but first, here is my concern.

Rick Warren writes this on 12/30/09:

Please read this end-of-the-year review and then take one of the 3 actions below.

Ray Johnston writes this on 01/12/10:

Please read this end-of-the-year review and then take one of the 3 actions below.

Rick Warren writes this on 12/30/09:

2009: A BANNER YEAR OF MINISTRY IN SPITE OF THE RECESSION. There's so much to share - I can only hit the highlights (maybe 5%) of how your church has served our community this year:

Ray Johnston writes this on 01/12/10:

2009: A MONUMENTAL YEAR OF MINISTRY IN SPITE OF THE RECESSION. There's so much to share -

I can only hit the highlights (maybe 5%) of how our church has served our community this year:

Rick Warren then writes all about what the church's ministries have been doing.

Ray Johnston then writes all about what the church's ministries have been doing.

Rick Warren writes this on 12/30/09:

YOUR GIFTS HELP THE POOR & THOSE HURT MOST BY THE RECESSION:

Ray Johnston writes this on 01/12/10:

**YOUR GIFTS ARE HELPING THOSE HIT HARDEST BY THE RECESSION**

Rick Warren writes this on 12/30/09:

1. Click [HERE](#) right now to and give as large an end-of-the-year gift as you can to help avert this crisis. If we all do what God leads us to do, we'll all be a part of a miracle.
2. Mail in your gift today. Gifts must be postmarked in 2009 to be posted as 2009 gifts for tax purposes. Mail to: 1 Saddleback Parkway, Lake Forest, CA 92630.
3. Drop your gift in the box at the front door of the Ministry Center at 1 Saddleback Parkway so you know for certain we get it TODAY or Thursday.

Ray Johnston writes this on 01/12/10:

1. Click [HERE](#) right now to give as large of a *one-time gift* as you can. Direct your giving to "Tithes." If we all do what God leads us to do, we can be a part of something amazing
2. Mail in your gift today.  
Bayside Church  
P.O. Box 2336  
Granite Bay, CA 95746
3. Drop your check off at the church offices this week.  
8211 Sierra College Blvd. Suite 440  
Roseville, CA 95661

Rick Warren writes this on 12/30/09:

Saddleback is the most generous church family I know. You have always comes through when asked.

Ray Johnston writes this on 01/12/10:

I've said it before, ...you are the most generous church on the face of the planet! You always come through.

The pastor said he planned to talk about what he called his church's "radical generosity" in the rest of the weekend's sermons. Quote from The Huffington Post Dated 01/03/10

Ray Johnston writes this on 01/12/10:

It's about God's call to **Radical Generosity** in every area of our lives. You don't want to miss it.

This email is not sent to shake your faith because we all know that our faith is in Jesus Christ. It is sent to question the inspiration and motivation of Ray Johnston. Is he being inspired by God or is he just trying to introduce unscriptural financial practices at Bayside? Rick Warren's plea was for \$900,000. They got \$2.4 million instead. Ray Johnston's plea is for \$250,000, is he hoping for over \$1 million dollars? I do not see anything in scripture that closely resembles these pleas.

What "in the world" was Ray thinking when he decided to do this to the Bayside family? With these kind of unscrupulous practices, Bayside's finances should be held under a microscope and examined with a fine tooth comb. What should Ray Johnston do? Ray should publicly apologize to the membership. He should apologize to Rick Warren for plagiarizing his letter. Then he should resign.

He sent out a follow up email concerning the disaster in Haiti. If he gives 10% to disaster relief there, then he will still be short of his \$250,000 goal. If you want to help Haiti, give directly to World Vision.

To see both letters from Warren and Johnston click the link below.  
[http://i.b5z.net/i/u/1350838/i/Ray\\_the\\_man.pdf](http://i.b5z.net/i/u/1350838/i/Ray_the_man.pdf)

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Your E-mail and More On-the-Go. Get Windows Live Hotmail Free. [Sign up now.](#)

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FW: To the Bayside Family

Tuesday, January 12, 2010 7:49 PM

From: "Jack Nordby" <jacknordby@hotmail.com>

To: "Frank Nordby" <fsn778@yahoo.com>

Here is the begging  
We will call it Begside church

Date: Tue, 12 Jan 2010 22:06:57 -0500

From: bayside@baysideonline.com

To: jacknordby@hotmail.com

Subject: To the Bayside Family

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## A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM PASTOR RAY

Dear Bayside Family,



**I don't send letters like this without a lot of thought. In fact, this is the only email like this I've sent in my 15 years as your pastor.** Please read all of it and respond as quickly as you can. **I have stunningly good news to share with you, but first, here is my concern.**

The picture. **There are thousands of families in our church and our community that are out of work and in desperate circumstances. Our community care and outreach programs are being stretched as the needs continue to rise. Last month, you responded to those needs with RADICAL GENEROSITY. You provided meals, clothing, and Christmas gifts to thousands of families in need. You volunteered over 4,000 hours to show our community God's love. I've never been more grateful to be your pastor.**

The problem. **While we've increased our giving to the community, our church income has remained the same. Because of your week-to-week faithfulness, and with some very good financial management, we've been able to stay close to budget all year. Until the last 2 weeks. The amount of income we have come to expect at year-end *just didn't happen.* Many of you gave generous and sacrificial year-end gifts, and I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart. But the fact is that we still find ourselves in need of a \$250,000**

Miracle **to meet our current budget.**

**Please read this end-of-the-year review and then take one of the 3 actions below. Your gifts truly do make a difference.**

**2009: A MONUMENTAL YEAR OF MINISTRY IN SPITE OF THE RECESSION. There's so much to share - I can only hit the highlights (maybe 5%) of how our church has served our community this year:**

YOUR GIFTS ARE HELPING THOSE HIT HARDEST BY THE RECESSION

**BAYSIDE CARE FUND - Last year, you helped over 2,500 families put food on the table and a roof over their heads**

- **\$262,000 given out in food, clothing, gas vouchers, and to help pay for living expenses like rent, heating and lighting bills, car repairs and crucial medical procedures**

**BAYSIDE GIVES BACK**

- **\$102,000 raised at a church-wide garage sale to support 24 local organizations that are helping the poor**

**FILL THE TRUCKS**

- **48 tons of food donated to Placer County Food Bank**
- **48 semi trucks of furniture, household items, and clothing for the Salvation Army**

**CHRISTMAS COMPASSION**

- **4,000 gifts given to children**
- **185 families provided with Thanksgiving & Christmas meals**

**CAREER COACHING**

- **425 individuals registered for networking, coaching and encouragement to compete in the job market**

YOUR GIFTS HELP THOSE IN PERSONAL AND RELATIONAL CRISIS

**COUNSELING - Community Care counselors provided over 4,000 counseling sessions - an increase of 25% with no additional staff**

**ONE2ONE - 1,500 people have been listened to and prayed for through this weekend prayer ministry**

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY - over 700 adults are finding freedom from addictive behaviors**

**LIFE HURTS, GOD HEALS - 200 students are being counseled and mentored to overcome addictions and destructive behavior**

**SUPPORT GROUPS - 700 people are involved in groups that help them deal with things like grief, cancer, divorce, blended families and crisis parenting**

**FINANCIAL COACHING - Crown Financial Ministries and Financial Peace University small groups are helping people get back on track financially**

YOUR GIFTS LEAD TO TRANSFORMED LIVES

- **THOUSANDS of people raised their hands to begin a new relationship with Jesus**

**Christ last year**

- **350 people were baptized**
- **6,000 adults are studying God's Word and doing life together in small groups**

YOUR GIFTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE AROUND THE WORLD

FAITH ALIVE CLINIC – **17,000 HIV/AIDS patients are seen every month**

CELEBRATE RECOVERY– **ministries launched in Nigeria and Colombia**

AGAPE INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP – **rescuing and caring for the victims of Child Sex Trafficking in Cambodia**

MEXICO OUTREACH – **6 homes built, 1 roofing project completed**

FRESNO OUTREACH – **nearly 500 high school students and adults built homes and led outreach ministries**

COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP – **1,200 children were sponsored and an estimated \$2.5 million will be poured into Africa, Colombia, and India over the next 5 years**

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – **556 gifts were sent to children overseas**

PEANUT BUTTER PROJECT – **Breakaway kids raised \$18,926.16 for children in Nigeria and Cambodia**

YOUR GIFTS ARE BEING MULTIPLIED!

**30,000 people attended our Christmas Eve services and over 2,000 of them raised their hands to invite God into their lives!**

Last weekend we saw overflow crowds (**yeah, in January**) and *WE BELIEVE 2010 COULD BE OUR BEST YEAR OF MINISTRY – EVER!* We aren't content to maintain the status quo, let alone start cutting ministry. But, we need all of us praying and all of us doing what we can financially to keep growing and reaching out to our community. In short, we need a \$250,000 MIRACLE!

There are 3 ways you can help *right now!*



1. Click [HERE](#) right now to give as large of a *one-time gift* as you can. Direct your giving to “Tithes.” If we all do what God leads us to do, we can be a part of something amazing!
2. Mail in your gift today.  
Bayside Church  
P.O. Box 2336  
Granite Bay, CA 95746
3. Drop your check off at the church offices this week.  
8211 Sierra College Blvd. Suite 440  
Roseville, CA 95661

**I've said it before, and I'll say it again because I mean it, you are the most generous**

church on the face of the planet! You always come through. I will be praying for you this week. Please pray for me. My message this weekend is "ONE LIFE - MAKE IT COUNT." It's about God's call to Radical Generosity in every area of our lives. You don't want to miss it. Grateful to serve with you,

Ray

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