

December 8, 2006

Cedarville Family,

Because we value your trust and your prayers, I wanted to make you aware that a gay advocacy group is considering visiting Cedarville University in the spring to protest against our biblical position on homosexuality.

Cedarville University is one of 60 Christian universities or military institutions nationwide that has been contacted by Soulforce, a lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender group founded by Dr. Mel White (a former ghostwriter for Jerry Falwell and Billy Graham). Soulforce exists to promote, in their words, "freedom ... from religious and political oppression" for homosexuals.

Of the 60 organizations they have contacted, Soulforce plans to select 40 by the end of the year for their spring 2007 "Equality Ride" bus tours. The goal of Equality Ride is to get institutions to change their policies and teachings on homosexuality and to accept homosexuality as normal and permissible.

As you all know, here at Cedarville we hold strongly to the Bible's teaching that sexual activity is a blessing designed exclusively for heterosexual marriage. In line with that, we don't permit homosexual acts, behavior, or promotion of a homosexual lifestyle. We have clearly communicated to Soulforce that our policies are based on biblical mandates and are not subject to change.

Should Soulforce decide to bring their protest to Cedarville in the spring, we will carefully articulate a biblical position on homosexuality, recognize the Equality Riders' dignity as individuals created in God's image, express Christlike compassion to them, and use this as an opportunity to share the gospel. There will be an extensive effort to prepare our campus community for Equality Ride.

I have asked Dr. Carl Ruby and Dr. John Gredy to lead our response effort. We will let you know of more details as they come, but if you have questions in the meantime, please e-mail me.

And, don't forget to pray! Your prayers are needed for the Equality Riders and our own campus family. Please ask the Lord to protect us and bless our efforts to speak truth to our culture. What an opportunity to live out our mission statement and our biblical convictions before the Equality Riders and a watching world!

God bless,

Bill

Dr. Bill Brown
President