

## Mark Driscoll - Currently Unfit for Any Pulpit

1 Tim 3:2-3: *Therefore an overseer must be above reproach.... sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable... not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome....*

Titus 1:7-8: *For an overseer as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered, ...but self-controlled.... and disciplined.*

**We believe restoration is possible and we pray regularly for Mark.  
Putting Mark back in the pulpit as a leader in the Church now is not biblical.  
It is neither loving to him or to those with whom he has not reconciled.**

As established by the Mars Hill Bylaws, men were appointed to the Mars Hill Board of Advisors and Accountability (the BOAA). Mark often spoke highly of these men and pointed the congregation to them as those who were responsible for holding him accountable.

When formal charges were brought against Mark, certain men from this Accountability group were designated as the Board of Overseers for the purpose of investigating these charges. After the investigation, they said:

- We concluded that Pastor Mark has, at times, been guilty of arrogance, responding to conflict with a quick temper and harsh speech, and leading the staff and elders in a domineering manner.  
–From the October 15, 2014 statement of the Mars Hill Board of Overseers

When found to have these (disqualifying) persistent sins in his life, appointed MHC leaders called Mark to work for restoration. Instead, on October 14, 2014, Mark Driscoll resigned.

**Mars Hill Bylaws on Church Discipline:** Resignation is possible only by a member of the Church who is in good standing and who is not under any disciplinary action. –Bylaws, Section 11.1.(e)

Two and 1/2 months later, on Dec 28, 2014, the 13 remaining Mars Hill Churches held their final services. By that time, the total congregation had dwindled from almost 15,000 in October, 2013 to about 8,000. Today, thousands are still reeling, some cannot bring themselves to go to another church, and some (including children) say they have left the faith. **Since then, some of these refugees may have started attending here at Gold Creek Community Church.** How do you think they would feel, seeing Mark in the pulpit today?

**Paul Tripp served on the BOAA for about 6 months. As indicated in the quote below, Tripp was also tasked to work directly with Mark on reconciliation with those he had sinned against:**

- A Board-approved reconciliation process is currently underway and is being overseen by Dr. Paul Tripp who flew to Seattle and recently spent a day with the Executive Elders.  
--Michael Van Skaik, BOAA Chairman, March 26, 2014

**Tripp resigned from the BOAA in June, 2014. When questioned by nine Mars Hill Elders, Tripp said:**

- *This [Mars Hill Church] is without a doubt, the most abusive, coercive ministry culture I've ever been involved with.*  
–Paul Tripp, August, 2014

**At most, Mark has reached out to reconcile with only a small handful of the many men and women he has sinned against while an Elder/Pastor at Mars Hill Church.**

**The Sunday after Mark resigned from Mars Hill Church, a statement was read to the congregation:**

- The investigation of formal charges against Mark Driscoll revealed patterns of persistent sin in three areas previously disclosed. 1st Timothy 5:20 requires an elder to be rebuked for persistent sin. **Our intention was to do this while providing a plan for restoration to leadership. We, in agreement with the Board of Overseers, are grieved that any process like this was cancelled by Mark's resignation.**  
–From the statement read by AJ Hamilton at Mars Hill Bellevue



“I am all about blessed subtraction. **There is a pile of dead bodies behind the Mars Hill bus and by God’s grace it’ll be a mountain by the time we’re done.** You either get on the bus or you get run over by the bus. Those are the options; but the bus ain’t gonna stop.”

-- **Mark Driscoll**, *Message to Pastors & Church Planters*

AUDIO LINK: [https://joyfulexiles.files.wordpress.com/2012/06/preaching-paul\\_edits1.mp3](https://joyfulexiles.files.wordpress.com/2012/06/preaching-paul_edits1.mp3)

Other Links:

<http://joyfulexiles.com>

<http://repentantpastor.com>

<http://welovemarshall.com>

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/warrenthrockmorton/2014/10/01/mars-hill-global-fund-help-the-helpless-or-use-the-helpless/>

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/warrenthrockmorton/2014/08/28/nine-current-mars-hill-church-elders-take-a-bold-stand/>