

Just as Martin Luther boldly challenged the oppressive ideology of the Catholic Church in 1517, we fearlessly present to the Assemblies of God and Chi Alpha leadership with "95 Questions" to address the three-decade-long spiritual and sexual abuse scandal surrounding their most influential mentor, Daniel Savala.

# Questions Concerning Daniel Savala

The first 34 questions concern Daniel Savala's 40-year involvement in the ministries of the Assemblies of God and Chi Alpha.

- 1 If Daniel Savala had no official ties to Chi Alpha or the Assemblies of God, how did he gain unrestricted access to mentor and preach within these ministries for decades?
- 2 Does it matter if an offender (Daniel Savala) is officially recognized as a minister in order to investigate multiple allegations of spiritual and sexual abuse within Chi Alpha?
- Daniel Savala was reported as a camp counselor in 1980 at Assemblies of God (AG) Camp in Kerrville, Texas (formerly known as Pearl Wheat) and again in 1991-1992 at Hill Country Camp. How many times did Daniel work as a counselor, and at how many AG camps?
- 4 Tim Barker took his youth group to Hill Country Camp in the early 1990s where Mr. Savala was a camp counselor. Did Mr. Barker know of Daniel back then?
- 5 Did Daniel Savala undergo a background check at South Texas Kerrville camp, any of the Chi Alpha campuses, or Mountain Valley Fellowship Churches?
- 6 Who initially introduced Eric Treuil to Mr. Savala at the University of Louisiana (USL) at Lafayette Chi Alpha?
- 7 How long was Daniel Savala allowed to work with the USL Chi Alpha?
- 8 Suppose Mr. Savala was not a Chi Alpha minister. What leadership role did he hold in 1989 at the University of Southwestern Louisiana, where he is mentioned alongside Eric and Anabelle Treuil as a Chi Alpha staff member in their university publication "L'Acadien"?
- 9 What specifically did Eric Treuil say about Mr. Savala to Eli Gautreaux, the Campus Pastor at Sam Houston State University, in 1996 to encourage Eli to meet Daniel?
- **10** In 1997, at Sam Houston Chi Alpha, what was Mr. Savala's official or unofficial title or role that made him a prominent figure/leader?
- 11 Does the national Chi Alpha organization and the Assemblies of God have knowledge of Daniel Savala being officially recognized as a trusted leader and mentor within the group, as evidenced by his inclusion within the foundation of the Sam Houston State university's leadership organizational chart, which comprises of hundreds of small group leader names? Has Chi Alpha contacted every name on this list?
- 12 Daniel Savala has not held a job for 40 years. In what specific ways did Chi Alpha provide Mr. Savala with a platform to speak, financial support, or access to student labor resources documented in the numerous mission trips to his residence?

- 13 How many Chi Alpha leaders and students fund-raised to support Mr. Savala during the 2012 Alaska sexual abuse trial and conviction?
- 14 We have heard that Eli Stewart and Eli Gautreaux actively sought contributions from alumni to cover Mr. Savala's legal expenses. Does the Assemblies of God have any policies regarding staff raising legal funds without prior approval?
- 15 What was the total amount of funds collected for Mr. Savala's legal expenses?
- 16 Did any Chi Alpha leader express concerns or resistance regarding the choice to support Mr. Savala in a potential sexual abuse trial related to pedophilia? If not, why not?
- 17 Why were the precise details of Mr. Savala's conviction not provided to the university student body, Chi Alpha interns, and small group leaders?
- 18 What led to the selection of Daniel Young, the former campus pastor at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, to cover Mr. Savala's \$10,000 bail and to serves as his official chaperon in Texas?
- **19** AG and XA sources have repeatedly asserted that students were no longer encouraged to interact with Mr. Savala after his 2012 conviction. If this is accurate, why were there student mission trips promoted by multiple XA chapters in the subsequent years to assist Daniel?
- **20** What was the official Chi Alpha Sam Houston State University statement and who did leadership inform about Mr. Savala's 2012 conviction?
- **21** How many Chi Alpha leadership retreats did Daniel attend or organize at his home? Multiple pictures after 2012 depict Chi Alpha leadership at Mr. Savala's residence with one image stating, "Our new favorite place."
- 22 How many campus pastors brought their small groups to Daniel's home after he became a registered sex offender? There are images of multiple university campus pastors and students up to 2022 taking groups to Mr. Savala's.
- 23 In 2016, someone initiated a Title IX investigation following a victim's report of alleged molestation by Mr. Savala. What details about Daniel Savala were included in the letter from SHSU via Dean Yarbrough to students and leadership?
- **24** Were there efforts made to question current and former Chi Alpha students to determine if any instances of abuse had previously taken place? If not, why not?
- **25** Were students provided a secure, anonymous, and nonpunitive channel to express their concerns or observations to impartial leadership? If not, why not?

- **26** Did the Assemblies of God and national Chi Alpha leaders receive prior notifications or warnings about Daniel before the whistle blower letters in 2018?
- **27** Were measures implemented to alert other Chi Alpha ministers who had interacted with Mr. Savala since 1989?
- 28 Suppose students were indeed discouraged from spending time with Mr. Savala. Why did the leadership of Sam Houston, Texas A&M, University of Texas Rio Grand Valley, Baylor, A&M Corpus Christi, University of Houston, and Rice University Chi Alpha's maintain close connections with other ministers by safeguarding Daniel's reputation and not disseminating information about his criminal convictions more broadly?
- **29** Mr. Savala's indictment occurred in 2010. If Daniel Young, Eli Gautreaux, and Eli Stewart were "official" staff at that time, would that have created a massive conflict of interest and put both XA and the AG in a highly compromising and dangerous legal position?
- **50** Did Eli Gautreaux inform his direct up-line leader of the concerted effort to raise money for Daniel Savala's legal defense? If not, why not?
- **31** Eli Stewart brought Daniel to the Texas A&M campus and Mountain Valley Fellowship until 2022. Did Mr. Stewart create an official legal document that would have permitted Mr. Savala to safely attend his church, as previous Assemblies of God ministerial standards recommended? If yes, who was overseeing Daniel's participation in church activities?
- **52** If not, what progressive disciplinary measures are typically applied to AG ministers when they deliberately and knowingly breach ministerial standards?
- 55 Even though it is not an AG-affiliated church, Eli Stewart and Daniel Savala served in the Bridgeport Chapel Youth Group in Oregon. Has any effort been made to contact this, or any other, church to inform them about Mr. Savala's criminal convictions?
- 54 How many out-of-state and out-of-country ministry trips did Mr. Savala take with Chi Alpha's leadership? Has any effort been made to contact the churches they ministered to inform them about Mr. Savala's criminal convictions?

# Questions For Chi Alpha Leadership

Questions #35-69 delve into the concerning culture within Chi Alpha and the apprehensions surrounding teachings that appear to endorse the acceptance of perversion and spiritual abuse, potentially culminating in instances of sexual abuse.

- **35** Why is the teaching of submission to authority so heavily promoted within Chi Alpha? And, has Chi Alpha ever provided formal training to recognize spiritual abuse?
- 36 Has Chi Alpha ever provided formal training on recognizing sexual abuse? If so, do all leaders, interns, and students in Chi Alpha know the official procedure for reporting instances of sexual abuse? If not, why not?
- **37** Why did Chi Alpha's leadership solely rely on Eli Stewart's account of events in the 2012 Alaska sexual abuse case?
- 58 Did any Chi Alpha leaders reach out to the Ketchikan district attorney or the journalist who authored the "Savala gets 90 days in jail" article, Clover Pass Church, or the families of survivors to obtain their perspective on the story? If not, could you please explain the reason for this?

### October 31, 2023

- 59 In 2016, after the Title IX investigation at Sam Houston State University, Did any of the 200+ Chi Alpha leaders challenge the prevailing narrative concerning Mr. Savala or exhibit curiosity about the opposing viewpoint?
- **40** Does Chi Alpha have exact donation records with the gross funds given to Mr. Savala for the last 25+ years?
- **41** Why didn't Chi Alpha establish a national hotline for victims following the conclusion of a Title IX investigation at Sam Houston State University in 2016?
- **42** When a whistle blower reached out to Eli Gautreaux on Facebook to discuss concerns related to Daniel Savala, Eli initially informed them that he would be available to talk in a few weeks. After two weeks, someone had deleted Eli's Facebook page. What was the reason behind this decision to delete his page?
- **45** Were there any reports of abuse (including physical assault) made against Eli Stewart or any other XA/AG Pastor involved in this scandal before April 2023?
- **44** In 2018, E. Scott Martin, the Chi Alpha National Director, indicated in a letter to a concerned former Chi Alpha leader that they would implement a mandatory reporting policy for all sexual abuse cases. Has this program been successfully implemented, and when was it officially launched?
- **45** To whom do Chi Alpha campus pastors and district leadership answer or report regarding accountability?
- **46** What mechanisms or safeguards exist within Chi Alpha to address instances where there is information about a campus pastor or leader engaging in inappropriate conduct?
- **47** What is the formal National Chi Alpha process for becoming a small group leader?
- **48** Given that many interns and campus pastors struggle to secure full financial support for themselves and their families, why doesn't Chi Alpha allow interns and other leaders to hold part-time jobs?
- **49** How does E. Scott Martin plan to address the harm experienced by individuals who have come forward as victims between 2018 and the present, considering that he was aware of the information provided to him 5 years ago and took limited action?
- **50** Have former Chi Alpha Students and Leaders from affected campuses been proactively reached out to and informed of the seriousness of the situation and provided information on how to get help and report any issues of spiritual or sexual Abuse that they experienced while involved with XA?
- **51** The primary goal of a university student is to obtain their degree. However, why is there significant pressure and manipulation placed on students to prioritize Chi Alpha?
- 52 Pastor Matt Hoogendorn at the University of Houston knew of Daniel Savala's status as a registered sex offender. Why didn't he inform Chi Alpha students and interns about Mr. Savala's criminal status when they considered renting a room from Daniel?
- 55 Eli Gautreaux and Jason Bell claimed they distanced themselves from Daniel Savala after his 2012 conviction. However, multiple testimonies contradicted this account. Was there ever an inquiry to determine the veracity of their statements and whether they were genuinely safeguarding the students under their care?

- 54 What information are current Chi Alpha students and leaders receiving about this situation on affected campuses? Is the situation being communicated clearly with full detail? Are they being discouraged from visiting websites raising awareness and giving a voice to abuse victims?
- 55 If Chi Alpha leadership at Sam Houston indeed distanced themselves from Mr. Savala in 2012, why did they display a video of Daniel Savala reprimanding a student leader at the XA Film Festival later that same year after Mr. Savala's conviction in front of hundreds of people?
- **56** When Daniel's home caught fire in 2015, how much of the funding for the repairs was contributed by Chi Alpha sources and through student labor?
- **57** We have discovered that Daniel used his home sauna, built by Chi Alpha leaders/students, to groom and sexually abuse students. Does it raise concern that nine different Chi Alpha leaders have saunas at their residences?
- **58** During a National Chi Alpha podcast with Jonathan Bryce and Daniel Young after 2016, did XA national training director, Alex Rodriguez (also a SHSU former Chi Alpha leader) question why they had promoted Daniel Savala as their mentor, given that Chi Alpha had distanced itself from Mr. Savala in 2012?
- 59 Are there any intentions to conduct an internal audit to investigate whether Eli Gautreaux, Eli Stewart, Jonathan Bryce (Mountain Valley Fellowship elders), Chris Hundl, Johnny Hauck, or any other Chi Alpha leader has potentially misappropriated church or ministry funds?
- **60** Is there an established policy within Chi Alpha concerning utilizing the physical labor of students and interns to enhance or maintain the personal residences and rental properties of Chi Alpha ministers/pastors?
- **61** Why are individuals with close affiliations to dismissed Chi Alpha leaders, whether they are immediate or extended family members, still allowed to participate in ministry and work within Chi Alpha?
- 62 Why did E. Scott Martin, in his letter to a whistle blower, assert that "no inappropriate behavior involving any student or staff member associated with Chi Alpha concerning Mr. Savala had been reported," yet in the following sentence, mention that Sam Houston State University conducted a Title IX investigation regarding Mr. Savala? What was the reason for the Title IX investigation if no inappropriate behavior had been reported?
- **65** What were the findings of the 2016 Sam Houston State Title IX investigation?
- 64 Was E. Scott Martin unaware that the XA North and South District leaders had received personal discipleship and mentoring from Mr. Savala? Did he not consider the potential conflict of interest? Did he engage in discussions with any other Chi Alpha leaders about this matter?
- **65** Why wasn't a formal investigation conducted in 2016 after Sam Houston State University presented the Title IX report? Two whistle blowers who initiated the Title IX investigation, one was a former XA student/leader and a victim of sexual abuse by Mr. Savala—the whistleblower sent letters to all local Assembly of God churches as a warning.
- 66 Was Chi Alpha leadership aware of the countless testimonials from various campuses that have reported promoting the idea that you must be physically nude to be spiritually transparent? Common phrases are Nudity is Unity, Nude Source, and Sock Talk (the practice of placing a sock upon the male genitals during bible studies).

### October 31, 2023

- **67** Is Chi Alpha or the Assemblies of God taking steps to reach out to every student from the past 30 years who interacted with Daniel or had connections to Sam Houston State University and other relevant campuses?
- **68** How does Chi Alpha define fruit and spiritual maturity in regards to placing students in roles of leadership?
- **69** What does it reveal about the spiritual maturity of numerous campus pastors within Chi Alpha that could not discern the deceitful nature of Daniel Savala, who was masquerading for 30 years as a holy man of God?

## Questions For The Assemblies of God

### Questions #70-89 address the core tactics and arguments of the Assembly of God organization in handling Chi Alpha's spiritual and sexual abuse scandal.

- **70** In an organization where a known convicted sex offender is involved, especially among students and young individuals, how many members of the organization's leadership need to be informed before taking action to halt their involvement?
- **71** Did the Assemblies of God and the Chi Alpha organization train their leaders regarding the significance of following protocol and the proper steps to take as soon as they become aware of a potential abuse issue?
- 72 After the AG or XA becomes aware of abuse allegations, what policies are in place to investigate and hold accountable those who have perpetrated the abuse so no further parties are harmed?
- **73** Do those policies prevent retaliation against those who bring forward abuse allegations? At least one Chi Alpha campus missionary was fired for bringing concerns to campus leadership about Daniel, and others have been ostracized, shunned, and shamed for raising concerns.
- 74 Is silence rewarded, or is it acceptable for ministers and their representatives, who hold the authority to vote and express their opinions, to stay silent once abuse is exposed?
- **75** Are there established penalties or consequences for individuals who publicly raise questions and challenge organizational leadership?
- **76** Is it deemed acceptable to refrain from publicly acknowledging and praying for known victims due to legal advice, ongoing investigations, and potential liabilities while simultaneously offering public prayers for the organization and highlighting its historical performance while characterizing the scandal and the victims as a mere "hiccup" on the continuum of ministry?
- 77 Were the following National and District leaders informed and warned about Daniel Savala by a whistleblower in 2018? Scott Martin, Esther Bevis, Crystal Martin, Gaylan Claunch, Gregg Headley, Tim Barker, Don Wiehe, Jeffrey Alexander?
- 78 In 2013, Tim Barker was approached by a whistle blower who disclosed Daniel's involvement with Chi Alpha. However, when questioned about it afterward, Mr. Barker stated that he had "forgotten" to investigate." What is the correct procedure for examining reports of abuse within the Assemblies of God? Did Mr. Barker follow this procedure? If not, why not? If yes, what are those results?
- **79** Tim Barker is under scrutiny in the Chi Alpha (XA) investigation in South Texas. What was the rationale behind permitting him to select the investigative firm?

- **80** Suppose XA or the AG becomes aware of allegations of sexual or financial misconduct involving a credential holder or an individual entrusted with oversight and authority in a church or ministry. What procedure is implemented to ascertain the accuracy or falsehood of these accusations?
- **81** What prompted E. Scott Martin, the National XA director, to appoint Eli Stewart as North Texas District Chi Alpha leader after 2016? Mr. Stewart's testimonial that Daniel Savala is Eli's best friend and continued to expose Chi Alpha students and the Mountain Valley Fellowship church community to Mr. Savala up to 2023.
- **82** Why wasn't a genuinely independent investigation commissioned in 2023, rather than hiring a law firm that inherently has a fiduciary duty to their client and typically needs more training in trauma-informed interviewing?
- **85** Why were the whistleblowers instructed to send their tips to an Assemblies of God email address? Wouldn't this create the perception of a conflict of interest in a genuinely independent investigation?
- 84 Why were the moderators of the XA Lions Den and certain survivors not included in interviews carried out by the Foley Law Firm, despite the moderators' persistent attempts to participate through emails and phone calls, demonstrating their strong willingness to contribute to the process?
- **85** If the Assembly of God organization operates with a bottom-up, rather than a top-down, policy approach, why is asking questions and seeking answers perceived as an attack on leadership?
- **86** Would the response from XA or AG leadership be consistent, or would they choose to stay silent or take a "wait and observe" stance if it were your own child or grandchild who attended a church or Chi Alpha and fell victim to grooming and abuse by a predator?
- **87** Why have only three out of 37,774 Assembly of God ministers taken a public stand and spoken out on behalf of the victims, advocating for accountability?
- **88** Considering that there are many dedicated individuals within the Assemblies of God and Chi Alpha, what does it signify when many pastors and Chi Alpha leaders choose to remain silent or are hesitant to voice their concerns due to fears of retaliation or financial repercussions?
- **89** Has the Assemblies of God attempted to investigate AG churches and foreign missionaries with former Chi Alpha leaders who were either friends or mentees of Daniel Savala, Eli Stewart, or any dismissed XA campus pastors?

October 31, 2023

### A Call To Action

Questions #90-95 are the conclusions to see a true reformation within Chi Alpha and the Assemblies of God.

- **90** In light of the fact that approximately a dozen Chi Alpha pastors and church leaders have experienced dismissals, suspensions, or resignations, is the Assemblies of God general counsel still inclined to accept E. Scott Martin's narrative that Daniel Savala's influence was limited to only some of the leaders?
- **91** Why haven't Chi Alpha groups in regions influenced by Daniel Savala not taken the proactive measure of temporarily suspending their operations to assess the extent of harm, reexamine their guiding principles, and resume their activities under new leadership? Such a step would emphasize the seriousness of the situation for the internal and external stakeholders associated with the Assemblies of God.
- **92** Will all Assemblies of God pastors receive notification and unrestricted access to the final investigation report produced by the Foley Law Firm, along with its recommendations for the South Texas Assembly of God (STXAG)?
- 93 Is there a plan to create a national committee comprised of respected and seasoned Chi Alpha directors from the entire Assembly of God (AG) organization, influential pastors, and other trustworthy leaders? The committee would be responsible for reviewing, assessing, and implementing necessary reforms, such as adjustments to training materials and job descriptions. Moreover, will the identities of the committee members be made publicly available?
- **94** When will a national response be made from the Assemblies of God and Chi Alpha about the well-being of the victims as its foremost priority?
- 95 Some would ask, "What's happening today in Chi Alpha that makes it unsafe for my young adult to attend?" Is it possible for parents to maintain confidence in their child's safety when the leadership at both the national and campus levels of Chi Alpha and the Assemblies of God continues to be employed, especially in light of multiple allegations involving Daniel Savala and other Chi Alpha members' involvement in the grooming and sexual abuse of students?

Father, we know revival is a time that brings both comfort and uncovering. It reveals the true intent of the heart. We ask that you flip the tables in our lives, that your goodness would bring us to repentance. You discipline those you love. We ask that you bring justice and healing for the victims, survivors, and all those involved. Bring a true reformation in this 21st Century.

# In The Name of Our Lord. Amen.

# Why Asking Questions Matters

O ne of the hallmarks of a healthy ministry or church is the freedom to question leadership and the ability to exercise independent thought. This principle contrasts the "don't think, just obey" or "just trust leadership" mentality that spiritually abusive ministries often promote.

Truth is paramount, especially within the body of Christ and church leadership. The ability to ask questions and hold leaders accountable is not a sign of rebellion but an expression of genuine concern for the congregation and university students' welfare.

Please share this document within your community and show your support for the survivors at XALionsDen.com.

### Universities Impacted by the Influence of Daniel Savala:

- Sam Houston State University
- Texas A&M at College Station
- Baylor University
- University of Texas San Antonio
- University of Houston
- Rice University
- Texas A&M at Corpus Christi
- University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley
  Texas A&M at Kingsville
- Angelo State University
- University of Louisiana Lafayette,

We cannot know the exact influence Daniel and his teachings have had on thousands of students worldwide.