

Cameron Strang returns to Relevant after sabbatical, 'spiritual abuse' accusations
by [Jack Jenkins](#) in the [May 20, 2020](#) issue



(Video screengrab)

Cameron Strang, the founder of the evangelical Christian media company *Relevant*, has returned as CEO more than six months after criticism of his leadership and allegations of “spiritual abuse” induced him to step away.

Relevant, based in Orlando, Florida, announced Strang’s return in a blog post on April 13, saying that Strang had engaged in an “extended period of counseling and introspection” and that his team has worked “to internally address the criticisms in substantive and tangible ways” and “pivot to a new direction as a healthier organization.”

Among the reforms is the creation of a new five-person executive board tasked with advising on “all aspects of business, culture and mission,” reviewing the magazine’s leadership, and serving “as a direct resource to the staff should any situations need guidance or intervention.”

Strang began his sabbatical in September 2019 after several former employees and editors accused him of creating a work environment at the magazine that was described as erratic or toxic. A series of posts on Twitter and on blogs aired complaints about what they said was Strang's penchant for making racially insensitive comments, berating staffers in front of colleagues, and insisting they work grueling hours.

Some of his critics voiced doubts that Strang had transformed himself.

"It is clear to me and those in nearest proximity to this conflict that Cameron Strang's return is one of convenience, not contrition," Rebecca Marie Jo, a former *Relevant* staffer, said in a statement.

Relevant staff did not return requests for comment from Strang. —Religion News Service