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John Allen Chalk: Personal Correspondence

John Allen Chalk

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From: J. Paul Du Bois

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# Gladstone Church of Christ

Evangelist  
J. Paul DuBois  
GL 2-7674

Elders  
Virgil Hudkins  
GL 2-0263  
Lowell Massey  
GL 2-7550  
Robert Nave  
GL 3-1609

5703 North Flora, Kansas City 18, Mo.

Dear Brethren:

Thank you so much for your fine cooperation in helping me complete my recent survey on the proper disposition of a preacher's time, etc. The results were, in most cases, just what I expected. Here is a partial list of the results:

Study Time . . . . 23.4 hrs. per week  
Bulletin . . . . 7.4 hrs. per week  
Office Duties . . 5.1 hrs. per week  
Visiting with members: 1 evening per week  
Visiting with Non-members: 1.5 evenings per week  
Cottage Bible Studies: 1.4 evenings per week  
Visitation Program: 1.2 evenings per week (Team or zone captain's mtg)  
Teacher's Meeting: 1 night per month  
Elder's meetings: 1 night per week (Averaged just under 4 per month)  
Hospital visits: eight or nine per month, average.

#### OTHER FINDINGS:

- Preachers should hold three to four meetings per year.
- Lectureships are beneficial (unanimous); most of you agreed that the congregation should bear at least part of the expense for the preacher attending the lectureships. There was only one dissenting voice in the survey.
- Two weeks vacation per year, with pay.
- One day off per week; some suggested another half-day would help.
- Preachers should not be required to maintain a log of their daily activities unless there is some reason to doubt his integrity, seems to have been the concensus on this matter.

There were other facts revealed by the survey, which I hope to make available a little later. I am moving to Tulsa (Brookside congregation) September 15, and it will be a while yet before I will have time to do any more work on this project. Incidentally, this survey has nothing to do with my move (tongue-in-cheek).

Thanks again for your cooperation,

Brotherly,



J. Paul Du Bois