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John Allen Chalk: Personal Correspondence

John Allen Chalk

10-15-1969

From/To: Joe Tomlinson, Jr. (Chalk's reply filed first)

Joe Tomlinson, Jr.

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October 15, 1969

Mr. Joe Tomlinson, Jr.
Broad Street Church of Christ
521 South Jefferson Avenue
Cookeville, Tennessee 38501

Dear Joe:

Thank you for taking the time to write regarding your new work at Broad Street. I had already heard that you had been invited to work with the congregation there, and was happy to get your letter. It sounds like everything is going well, and I pray that it will continue to do so.

I know you will have a very effective ministry there. The doors are open and the opportunities are many. I know you will enjoy working with Bill Goodwin and you will find the people at Broad Street cooperative and ready to work.

Above all, Broad Street needs spiritual growth at this point in her life. I feel that my ministry was a very superficial one and made progress only in certain obvious and outward areas. I, myself, did not know the Lord as I know Him now, during ^{my} ministry there. Your willingness to organize small prayer groups and to continually emphasized the spiritual man versus the carnal man, will make of you an effective servant of God.

Thank you for writing. I wish you every blessing of heaven.

Your brother,

John Allen Chalk

JAC:lc

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BROAD STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

Telephone: Area Code 615-526-7191
521 S. Jefferson • Cookeville, Tenn. 38501

Elders: Arnold Carter • W. D. Buford • Dr. J. O. Cummins • John A. Mitchell
Dick Mitchell • Ray Roberts • Henry Shelby / Minister: Bill Goodwin • 537-6806

October 8, 1969

Dear John Allen,

I guess you have heard by now that Broad St. decided they wanted me? I am deeply thankful to God for this wonderful and challenging opportunity. I solicit your prayers daily, especially that I may not stand in Christ's Way as he moves among us. I found^{ed} about the position one week ago last Monday. I moved in to my house on Thursday. My address is 46 Church Street, right next door to Mr. Dero Brown. I believe finding the house without any difficulty was someone's answer to prayer. The Lord knew that I had been quite anxious about working at Broad Street and I know I had a lot of people interceding for me as I took the new work and also looked for a place to stay. It being a college town, I thought I would be hard put to find a place. Arriving at Dr. Cummins house on Thursday at 9:30 a.m., by 11:10 a.m. I had a house. It has a living room adequate so that I can use for the Lord's ministry in inviting others over. Also, it has one bedroom, kitchen, and bath. It is furnished and costs on \$75.00 a month plus utilities. The Fred Breedings own it. I am spraying for water bugs. I will give them two more weeks and if they

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are not gone by then I will take more drastic action.(ha,ha)

John, I can tell that Bill Goodwin and I are going to hit it off just great. He is a fine and thorough preacher and has a great sense of humor. By the way, he shared with me yesterday about the time he introduced you to Dr. Trueblood at Earlham. (ha,ha) We just came back from eating lunch with Bro. ~~W~~Ferrell the school principle. He sure seems like a very compassionate man. Last Sunday night, I believe, we installed 5 new deacons: Guy Woodall, Dale Bush, Mitchell Judd, George Simpson, and ~~D~~Foy Carrington. I thought you might be interested.

I have come to appreciate a number of the families here, especially the Ray Roberts, John Stites, and the Gaylon Presleys.

All in all I feel very fortunate and feel a deep inadequacy for the task. But I think that this good for I could be over confident and cocky and then really flop. I realize I have a lot to learn, but I am willing to work and study and listen.

⊗

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On speaking at the Christian Student Center last evening, I learned you might be coming to Cookeville this month for a retreat. If you do I would like to have you ~~and~~ as a dinner guest and you of course are welcomed to stay at my house, if you so choose.

I continue to pray for your ministry and outreach at Highland. Keep on preaching Christ with all boldness. How is Bro. Mid? My prayers are with him and his loved ones. Tell that good old hard working conscientious Bob and Scott and Randy and Big Howdy. If you want you let them read the letter, especially Randy and Camilla.

May the love of God, the grace of Christ, and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit empower you to alleviate so much suffering in our world and to bring others to the Master.

Your buddy in the WAY,



Joe Tomlinson, Jr.