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John Allen Chalk: Personal Correspondence

John Allen Chalk

12-17-1970

From/To: John W. Hall (Chalk's reply filed first)

John W. Hall

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December 17, 1970

Mr. John W. Hall
Dearborn Valley Church of Christ
17200 West Outer Drive
Dearborn Heights, Michigan 48127

Dear John:

Doesn't God have a powerful and wonderful way of bringing people together? After our brief visit last year at Kimberly Downs I never knew whether I would see you again. In view of all the tensions that arose surrounding my coming to Kimberly Downs, at times I had difficulty loving and respecting everybody connected with that church.

As a result of our mutual desire to ask, seek, and knock (Matthew 7:7-11; Luke 11:9-13) we were brought together during the Youth Rally at North Warren. I thank God for the powerful way He is at work in your life and in the life of your wife.

Your letter has been shared with a number of people here in our building, all of whom were highly elated and encouraged by it. My secretaries were thrilled at the report that you and your wife had come to an even more personal and genuine understanding of commitment to the rule of Jesus Christ. My only word of exhortation is that given by the apostle Paul in Colossians 2:7,8. It has become a watch-word in my life and a key to the continuing growth that comes from daily putting one's self under the rule of Jesus. This calls for an act of the will, a conscious decision versus saying a few words. That is what you and your wife are discovering in such a beautiful way.

May God continue to bless and use you mightily, Ephesians 3:14-21 is also my prayer for you and your wife.

Fraternally yours,

John Allen Chalk

JAC:lc

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Y

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DEARBORN VALLEY

Church of Christ

17200 WEST OUTER DRIVE
DEARBORN HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN 48127

December 8, 1970

Dear John:

It sure was good to see you the other day at the Youth Rally at North Warren. I am sorry that this letter is delayed, but I have been quite busy and haven't been able to get around to writing.

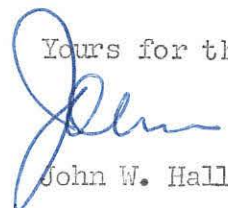
You know, it's still good to be a young person; therefore, I can still go to youth rallies. The way that you challenged young people as well as us older ones, was very uplifting, and I want to thank you from the depths of my heart for the result that has taken place.

I thought about what you said for a long time. I meditated on it on the way home, and when I got home, I began to tell my wife. We began to see that truly we were not letting Christ rule our lives, that probably we had been putting on a big show, trying to fit the "preacher image". We decided that it was about time to let Christ take over. We talked till about 11:30 at night, and then we both committed ourselves to Christ and prayed. John, the words are indescribable of our relationship with each other as well as with Christ. We've only been married 4 years, but we have been happier the last 3 weeks than we have in the last 4 years. I pray God that someday I shall have the ability like you have to help others to see the need to commit their lives to Christ.

Amazing things happen! The next morning being Sunday, we got up and prayed to the Lord to guide us and use us that day, to take over the reins of our lives. We told Him that if He would do that, we'd give Him the glory. That morning I was visiting the Pontiac church as the speaker. By the power of God, we were able to stir 8 people to commit themselves to Christ, and none of them were teenagers. They were all older people. That night I came back to Dearborn Valley, and once again by the power of God, we were able to stir 2 more souls.

Words cannot be expressed to you for helping us find the peace that comes by knowing Jesus Christ as the Lord of our life. Pray for us as we shall remember you.

Yours for the Master,



John W. Hall