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John Allen Chalk: Personal Correspondence

John Allen Chalk

7-16-1968

From/To: Carl W. Cheatham (Chalk's reply filed first)

Carl W. Cheatham

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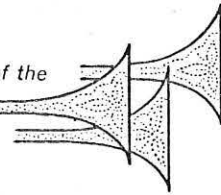
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HERALD OF TRUTH

Radio and Television Programs

July 16, 1968

Mr. Carl W. Cheatham
University Center of the Church of Christ
P. O. Box 424
Stillwater, Oklahoma

Dear Carl:

The day your letter came with its very interesting proposal, I also received a letter from a dear friend of mine who would fit your situation, with a few exceptions. Brother Ivory James is a gospel preacher in Huntington, West Virginia. He is a Negro in his early thirties, with a wife and four daughters. I have had several opportunities of association with brother James, as well as hearing him speak. I can attest to his genuine understanding of Christ's way, and of his profound commitment to gospel truth. He is an able preacher.

His burdens of family and church work have prevented him from finishing his undergraduate work at Marshall University. He has just resigned from that work and is looking for a place to go so that he can finish his college work, including his master's degree. Even though it might come as an initial shock, I believe that there are several advantages in bringing a man like Ivory James to the church there and to the campus of Oklahoma State University. First, he can show the universal nature of Christianity as it is being worked out in a practical way in the Stillwater church and at the University Center. Second, you can be a means through your support and encouragement of him, in keeping a highly talented young gospel preacher from quitting the ministry. Third, you can give him the necessary equipment, both spiritually and intellectually, to become a great leader in his own right, among both blacks and whites. Fourth, it would be a great vote of confidence to his lagging spirits at this point.

I can give him an unqualified endorsement. I genuinely think this is an opportunity to be considered by you and your elders. I have not only associated with Ivory but I have lived with him, and know him to be a great Christian. The only problem might be in providing enough support for him to come and work and live with you, but I deeply believe that it ought to be pursued. His address is Church of Christ, 1693 9th Avenue, Huntington, West Virginia, 25701. I hope you can contact him.

Fraternally yours,

John Allen Chalk

Church of Christ

P

FRONTIER 2-5682

P. O. BOX 424

DUCK AND MCELROY

STILLWATER, OKLAHOMA 74074

UNIVERSITY MINISTER
CARL W. CHEATHAM
FR 2-8358

July 5, 1968

*How!
Attach copy of
Mary's letter to
my letter to Carl!*

Mr. John Allen Chalk
Church of Christ
Box 2439
Abilene, Texas 79604

Dear John Allen:

We are hoping to initiate a new program in our work here and I thought that as a result of your connection with the Campus Evangelism movement in many areas of the country that you might be able to assist us.

In order to evangelize the campus at Oklahoma State University more effectively, we hope in the near future to initiate a kind of assistantship program. We would like to set up a program in which we would pay a graduate student a sum equivalent to that which he would receive as a graduate assistant. The student would then spend an equivalent number of hours per week to that required of him in an assistantship program in face-to-face evangelism on the campus. Since an out of state student would face the difficulty of high out of state tuition, we probably would have to make some special arrangement to offset this difficulty for him.

We are looking for a graduate student of either sex who is mature, who has a mature understanding of his faith, who could communicate effectively with the state university student, and who enjoys the personal contact of face-to-face evangelism.

We would like to begin this program as soon as we can find a qualified person. Then we hope to increase the number of personnel in the program as our finances permit. If you know of a person who would fit the above qualifications, I would appreciate it very much if you would put us in contact with him. I would also appreciate it if you would tell others who might be in a position to know of a qualified person about our proposed program.

Thank you very much for your assistance. May God bless you in your efforts.

Sincerely,

Carl
Carl W. Cheatham

CWC/jle