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From: E.C. Maynard

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Mr. John Allen Chalk,
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Dear John:

By the providence and mercy of God, we are all well, and our work is progressing very good: last year was one of the hardest years work I have ever spent in our Lord's Cause: I was in the Island Jungles, and bloody men killed people while I was there, but God was pleased to watch over me: I was deathly sick in South America and Central America, but again, God brought me home, though at the loss of most of my hearing and taste... I am gaining some of it back now: John, I was so close for money, I had one meal a day... I ate things that natives cooked, that I was afraid to ask what it was... never did know... but there is one sure thing, it kept me alive. But I didn't intend to start complaining to you... I suppose it was just on my mind.

How are you getting along? My wife and I speak of you often: we remember you all every morning in our prayers, as we gather around our table, before we go about our work. We shall always pray for your work and prosperity: we need your prayers.

God seems pleased to bless us with good favor among the churches, for they have bought our tent, and our truck: if he will walk before us and help us, we plan to begin pitching the tent in the neighborhood of Miami, moving from there to La., then to Va., then to D.C., and then to Canada, from there to Idaho, then to Neb., and then Indiana, Ohio, and then to Ala., and then to Miss. This will be our year's work with it.

John, I have 8 preacher's names on my list whom we have a lot of confidence in... whom we have held near and dear to us... for several years, whom we would like to help us in this Tent Campaign: you of course are one of these preachers: we would like to have you join this work with us: we want you to write and tell us if you will go and hold at least one meeting (two if you could) in this tent, someplace east of the Mississippi River: all you would do is go and preach: the tent and all physical equipment will be organized and ready when you arrive: all advertisement and personal work will be taken care of before you arrive at the tent. If you will do this, let me know immediately, so I can write to your congregation and ask them to continue your salary, and also, if they will, we want them to pay your travel expense. But I shall not write to them until I hear from you.

If you do this, do you have a preference, as to what section you would like to hold a meeting or meetings? What would be your preference in time (what months)?

Would you go back to the Jungles of the Islands with me, for a month's school, next winter, if they will let you go? I am organizing a group of 6 preachers, which will scatter among the deep jungles, and teach a school there to the natives. Let me know immediately.
While I was in the West, in mission meetings, this past summer, I found a group of 2400 indians, among whom many died of exposure and need of medicine. I came home, begged the churches in Detroit, Cincinnati, Memphis and Dallas for medicine and used clothing: I took almost 3 tons of clothing and a lot of medicine to them: it took me almost 6,000 mi. and about a month to do this: but it has opened a great door to us, and we trust God will help us to enter this door of opportunity and start a work among them. They surely were grateful: we plan to take another truck load, and have a VBS there with the children, this summer.

I haven't heard from Eudilla in so long: she didn't even write to me when Lefty was sick, just before he died: I found it out by others: things like this John, have haunted us for many years: I am sure that this attitude in her was what made my wife and me (our whole family) love you so much, for we knew what she would do to you, and knew you were so young at that time: we were afraid it would destroy your interest in preaching: we prayed for you, and now I am sure you can see the difficulties from a better perspective: but here I am gossiping: but I know that you know that we just don't write or talk to everyone like this. I do wish she would not do these things, for we love her and pray for her.

I am preaching at the church above: write to me there: the work is getting along good: we would like to ask you all to pray for our work. We never forget your's.

Be sure to write to me and let me know if you can help us this year in our mission work... and what divisions of it you can help us in.

We love you all and pray for you.

Adrian is preaching at Lynville, Tenn., now: has a good work, and getting along good. Javan is in FHC. Tish is in Little Rock... her husband, Larry (Peebles) is in 3rd. yr. med. college. Phil, our youngest boy, is 12, and getting along good: he has a nice pony.

You all try to drive down and stay a day or two with us: we will do our "level-best" to show you a nice time.

In Love and Devotion,

E.C. Maynard.