11-12-1969

From/To: Rod Spaulding (Chalk's reply filed first)

Rod Spaulding

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November 12, 1969

Mr. Rod Spaulding
Camp Shiloh
Box 627
Mendham, New Jersey 07945

Dear Rod:

Your description of the work with the Ridgewood church in Toledo is exciting. I think there must be someone who would want to be a part of this work. In fact, I find it personally challenging. Floyd Rose is a good man and would make an effective co-worker.

At this point, the one man that I think of who has had courageous experience in working with Blacks, and who has the kind of spiritual attitude necessary for this type project is Evans McMullins of Griffin, Georgia. Incidentally, this is the town from which all the descendants of John Howard Griffin, Black Like Me, came. Evans has done an exciting work in Griffin for the last fourteen years, even though still a young man, and now has a bi-racial ministry which must be a "first" for any Southeastern church of Christ.

The only other name that I can think of at this moment is a long shot, Dr. Jennings Davis of Pepperdine. Jennings is constantly reviewing his effectiveness on the Pepperdine campus and would consider another opportunity, in my judgment.

Let me know how plans develop in the moving in of the eight to ten white families during the summer of 1970. I think this could be an effective witness, not only in Toledo, but to all churches all over the country.

Your brother,

John Allen Chalk

JAC:1c
October 30, 1969

Dear John Allen:

I am writing you about an exciting opportunity that is developing in the Ridgewood church of Christ in Toledo, Ohio. Floyd Rose, the minister of this congregation is interested in making some unprecedented moves. He hopes to find white families to move and integrate this presently black church and become involved in a total way in the challenge of Toledo.

His three-step outline includes: 1) Finding a white minister interested in social concern and not tradition-bound to move here around the first of the year. This man would need to be able to preach when Floyd is gone and to administer a local church program. 2) To find eight to ten white families to move there and take jobs sometime during the summer of 1970. 3) To begin an inner city program with young people living in the ghetto on a subsistence salary and ministering to the people around where they live.

I am writing you because the need he faces at present is to find a minister who would move to become involved with this work. If you know of any individual, white or black, whom you think might be interested in this challenge and in whom you have the confidence to recommend, I would like to have his name. Even if this person might not be interested at present, we would like to contact him so he could at least be aware of this opportunity.

We offer you our appreciation and hope to hear from you soon.

Yours in Christ,

[Signature]

Rod Spaulding
General Manager

RS:jh

cc: Floyd Rose

"Anyone who welcomes one little child like this for my sake is welcoming me." Mark 9:37