

11-24-1970

From/To: Brad Brumley (Chalk's reply filed first)

Brad Brumley

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November 24, 1970

Mr. Brad Brumley
Church of Christ
P. O. Box 1333
Columbus, Mississippi

Dear Brad:

I shared your kind letter of September 28 with Sue. She and I both appreciated your thoughtfulness in writing. The "Midnight Cowboy" incident has been an exceedingly difficult thing to understand. I continue to receive criticism and rejection from many quarters. That is not as difficult to understand as is the fact that people like Ira Rice do not even attempt to get the facts before publicly branding me before the whole brotherhood. This incident has helped me understand that I serve Jesus Christ and not a human denomination or brotherhood.

Mother told me how much she enjoyed visiting with you recently at the hospital during Big Mother's last flare-up. She must have had an opportunity to talk with you for a long time. It was an especially encouraging visit for Mother. I want to thank you for taking the time to show her your concern and to share some of yourself with her. It meant much to her.

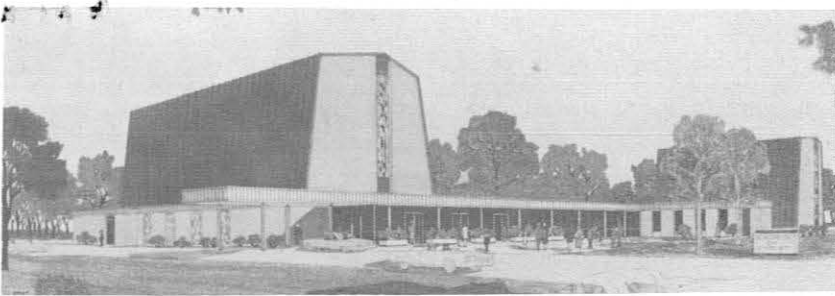
I hope we get to see you during the holidays. We will get to Bib Mother's but I don't know if we have time to go on to Columbus or not. Thanks again for writing when you did. I always cherish the special help you have given me and the unique encouragement your own ministry has been and continues to be to me.

Fraternally yours,

John Allen Chalk

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CHURCH OF CHRIST

P. O. BOX 1333

314 FIFTH STREET SOUTH

COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI 39701

2401 Seventh Street, North

September 28, 1970

ELDERS:

Bill Brumley
Harold Dobbs
Roy Johnson
Louis Nabors, Sr.
Lloyd Yates

DEACONS:

T. W. Collins
Herbert Graham
Bob Hickman
Roy King
Tom McFerrin
W. R. Polk
C. V. Stewart, Jr.
V. J. Wood

EVANGELIST:

Brad Brumley
Study 328-6084
Res. 328-4483

John Allen Chalk, minister
church of Christ
Fifth and Highland Streets
Abilene, Texas

Dear John Allen;

Shirley and I were in Vicksburg last week in a Bible School Clinic, and of course, visited quite a bit with Brother Cecil May, the local minister there. Brother May had recently attended a Herald of Truth workshop that was held, I believe, in Tupelo. At the workshop he was handed a copy of your statements of apology with reference to the unfortunate incident concerning the comments about the film, "Midnight Cowboy". Needless to say, it was with no little anxiety and concern that I read the apology.

First of all, let me say that I love and appreciate you very much, not only because of our close family tie, but also because of what I believe to be genuine sincerity on your part. Therefore, I wanted to write and let you know that you have my prayers and certainly hope that no serious damage of a lasting nature will come from the above mentioned incident.

I can appreciate the fact that once a person has attained the image and recognition within the brotherhood that you have so deservingly received, you become an object of criticism that few men ever really experience. Therefore, without evaluating your behavior in any way since I am in no position to do so, I just wanted to write you and let you know that you have my every concern and I trust that the Lord has many, many great assignments for you in the future that is yours.

Give our love to Sue and the children. I had hoped to come to the workshop in July, but my schedule would not allow and as it stands now, I don't guess I will be able to come to the 1971 workshop. Although, I would like very much to come and benefit from the classes as well as from the Christian fellowship.

All continues to go quite well here in Columbus; although we did suffer considerably during the summer months in both attendance and in contribution. However, with the beginning of school the first of September, we are experiencing some return to normalcy. Presently, Shirley and I only have two girls at home, Marie and Pat. Marie is a freshman at M.S.C.W. and Pat is a Senior at Lee High School. They are both wonderfully, fine girls and a real joy to have around. Larry has chosen to go back and live with his mother and complete his high school work at Chester County High there in Henderson. Susan, of course, is married and living in Henderson. Her husband, Gary, is a ministerial student at Freed-Hardeman while she completes her undergraduate work at Union University at Jackson. Big Mother is doing quite well and I'm sure that your mother keeps you posted on her progress.

Again, let me say that my heart goes out to you and I shall continue to pray for you and covet your prayers as well.

In Christian love and admiration,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brad". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Brad,

BB/hg