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To: John Acuff

John Allen Chalk

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Mr. John Acuff
P. O. Box 828
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Dear John:

The Pat Boone thing was not a contrived situation. I knew that Shirley was on a real spiritual quest and I also knew that Pat was showing new concern. I did not have evidence that Pat had spoken in tongues even though there was some suspicion of it.

After he spoke at Highland and the criticism started coming in, the elders adopted a five-point statement. They said in essence: (1) we did not know Pat Boone had spoken in tongues when he appeared at the Highland congregation. (2) What he said in our pulpit was completely Biblical and we agreed with all of it. (3) We do not believe that tongues are a Twentieth Century manifestation or gift of the Holy Spirit. (4) All questions regarding Pat Boone should be answered by his own elders at the Inglewood Congregation rather than by the Highland elders. (5) We have no plans for further use of Brother Boone as long as he persists in this teaching and practice regarding tongues.

This statement has gone to everybody who has inquired about it. Of course, there have been many questions. This is simply one more of the countless situations that occur around here over which I have to be either deceptive or stupid and you can imagine which one I wind up being more often.

It was a real joy to talk with you on the phone yesterday. I mentioned it at our dinner table that night. Evelyn and Mary Alice were eating with us. Evelyn's countenance dropped at the very mention of your name. I don't think it was so much her disapproval of you as it was her disapproval of my having association with you. Rather than reacting to this, both of us, I think, must redouble our efforts in prayer for Evelyn, love and respect her for the good she is doing. Let's don't require that she be what either of us may happen to be.

I saw Margaret Schaub last night at our teenage Bible study. After our Bible study at 9 o'clock Marty Hooper shared his testimony with the kids. Margaret came over with Marty about 9 o'clock. She looked radiant as usual.
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I will be making some kind of decision in the next few days. You may even hear from me regarding it before you get this letter. Continue to pray for us.

Sue was mightily delivered through the ACC Lectureship. Her class was a good thing, for which I am deeply thankful. Prayers all over the country supported her in this and I am so pleased at the kind of response she made to the challenge.

We love you and send our continuing prayer support of your discipleship.

Your brother,

John Allen Chalk

JAC:lc