
John Allen Chalk: Personal Correspondence

John Allen Chalk

5-25-1971

To: Jennings Davis

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Recommended Citation

Chalk, J. A. (1971). To: Jennings Davis. Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/hst-chalk-personal/3143>

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May 25, 1971

Dr. Jennings Davis
Pepperdine University
8035 Vermont Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90044

Dear Jennings:

Thank you so much for sharing the letter you and Lucille received from your friend. How I ached for her as she described her experiences within the local Alabama churches and how much I understood her discription of preachers.. Unfortunately, the discription not only fits the preachers, but as my experience here continues to bear out, it also fits Ninety-nine per cent of the members. It is very revealing to see the kinds of lives some of our "good church members" live when they think no one is watching and since God is not around and certainly the Holy Spirit has long since died and Jesus is only a folk hero, why worry about the way one lives when one is hidden from public view!

Our transition is coming along smoothly. Sue and I are deathly tired - I'm sure because of a three-week road trip I had just been on, and the six days that she and I spent in Guatemala in a spiritual enrichment ministry to four missionary families from the Brentwood congregation in Austin. The Lord blessed us powerfully at that time and how I wish I could share with you the experiences that came out of it. Even more importantly a new, deeper reality of Jesus in my own life occurred during that trip, for which I praise His name.

The people here at Highland are showing great love and understanding in our move. I truly believe God has worked in my ministry of the Word here these two years. I am seeing some of the most remarkable responses in these closing weeks from people that I never dreamed would respond. I am still convinced that we have made the right decision for the family but I have to confess to be somewhat sad at moving out of a direct ministry of the Word. Please pray that Sue and I will remain open to God's will for us in the days ahead and that we will be the kind of parents we intend to be by the very fact of this move.

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Page 2, Dr. Jennings Davis

Our new address in Austin as of May 31 is 8700 Wildridge Drive, Austin, Texas, 78759. My business address will be P. O. Box 4055, Austin, Texas, 78751. We do not as yet have a telephone number but I will send it to you as soon as we know what it is.

I begin classes on Monday morning, May 31st. I will only have about eight to ten days at the end of the summer before the fall term begins. It looks like a real heavy summer of study for me as I try to make this big transition from the pulpit to the bar.

We have not heard any news regarding the baby. We know you will let us know as soon as there is something to shout about. We pray that everything will be all right.

Please express to Lucille my sincere regrets at not getting with her while she was in Abilene. It was a severe personal disappointment. I wanted to see her so badly and share with her some of the things happening at the time she was in town. I thank both of you for sharing the letter with me. Please remember that I am going to be in need of great spiritual help in these next twenty-seven months. Now is the time for you to be the brother that I know you are and on second thought, just continue to be the brother that you already are.

Your brother,

John Allen Chalk

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