

4-1-1971

From/To: Mark Hicks (Chalk's reply filed first)

Mark Hicks

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April 1, 1971

Mr. Mark Hicks
Cleveland Avenue Church of Christ
130 Cleveland Avenue
Wichita, Kansas 672-14

Dear Mark:

How thoughtful of you to write so personally, both with regard to your own struggles and with regard to the decision I am trying to make. I appreciated so much the loving way you spoke to me about my own decisions. I am praying about this and attempting to be sensitive to the Lord. At this point I have made absolutely no decision and feel a great peace in the midst of all of the confusion of indecision. I had an hours conversation this afternoon with one of our elders that was encouraging. We have so far to go and I really wonder if we are going to get to go as far as we need to go, but again, I suppose that isn't even the question to be answered at this point. Thank God for Lyle Brooks. Isn't it beautiful to have a Yokefellow with whom you can pray and have spiritual communion? I am thankful that God has raised him up for you and I hope that he can continue to be the kind of brother you will need through the trying days ahead as the Cleveland Avenue congregation moves out in such a distinctive, effective way.

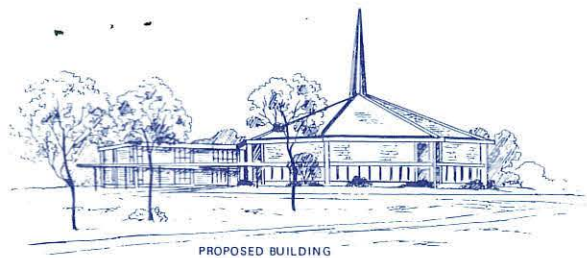
It was great seeing you and Sarah during the Lectureship. Give our love to her.

Your brother,

John Allen Chalk

JAC:lc

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Cleveland Avenue

CHURCH OF CHRIST

130 CLEVELAND AVENUE • WICHITA, KANSAS 67214 • 264-1936

March 17, 1971

Dear John Allen -

I have meant to write you for days now and have struggled with a lot of things in prayer and meditation. I have had a depressing few days and have now come through on a stronger plane than ever. Dr. Hyle Brooks and I have really built a spiritual tie in prayer and discussion which has been mutually edifying. I had almost despaired of my work but realize I would be totally unhappy doing anything else.

I have no words of advice for you, except to lean heavily on prayer for the decisions regarding your future. I could no more

contribute an objective comment as to what your choice ought to be than I could get James Bales to sleep in the same bed with the "Kookamonga Kid." But I firmly believe, personally, that the Spirit of God has called you to preach His Word — no matter what else. He has called you to do it in a public, positive and prophetic way. He has endowed you with abilities far above many and would be grieved if you abused that gift. I will continue to pray for you and your family.

Give our thanks to Sue for your hospitality during the lectures. Sarah and I enjoyed the trip (and we missed the Blizzard here!). Enclosed is a copy of the program the kids at W. S. U. worked up. Should be interesting, to say the least. Write when you can —

Your brother because of Him,
Mark