To Paul Tillich

19 October 1954
Montgomery, Ala.

King asks Tillich to meet him in Boston during King's November visit. Tillich, however, was in Scotland and did not begin teaching at Harvard until fall 1955.¹

Dr. Paul Tillich
Harvard University Divinity School
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Tillich:

I am a non-resident graduate student of Boston University in process of writing a dissertation entitled, “A Comparison of the Conception of God in the Thinking of Paul Tillich and Henry Nelson Wieman.” I have been away from Boston for the past four months. However, I plan to be in Boston for about a week in the month of November, from the 10th through the 17th. I would appreciate the privilege of having a personal interview with you at some time during this week to discuss some aspects of this dissertation.

Please let me know by return mail if it will be possible for me to see you within this week, also, on what day and at what hour.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Martin L. King, Jr.
MLK/csk

¹. See Paul Tillich to King, 3 November 1954, p. 310 in this volume.

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To Ralph W. Riley

19 October 1954
Montgomery, Ala.

King answers Riley's inquiries about John Wesley Dobbs and invites Riley, a former pastor of Dexter, to give the sermon for Dexter's anniversary.¹ A week later,

¹. For Riley's request, see Riley to King, 29 September 1954, MLKP-MBU: Box 117. Ralph Waldo Riley (1900–1959) received his A.B. from Morehouse College and his B.D. from Gammon
Riley would communicate his regret that owing to a previous engagement he could not preach the sermon in December.²

Dr. R. W. Riley, President
American Baptist Theological Seminary
Nashville 7, Tennessee

Dear Dr. Riley:

I am very sorry that I am somewhat tardy in answering your last letter, but it so happened that I was out of the city on its arrival. I did, however, get the certificate off to Detroit. Mr. Nesbitt did not have a record of the exact date that Mr. Dobbs was baptized, so I had to use one of the dates that you suggested. I am sure that the certificate has been received by now.

I have been intending to write you for the past two weeks to extend an invitation to you to preach for our Church Anniversary at the 11 o’clock service on the 2nd Sunday in December, 1954. We are seeking to make this a significant event and your presence as well as your message would add so much to that occasion. I hope that you will be able to accept this invitation. Please let me hear from you at your earliest convenience concerning this matter.

Our work here is going very well. We are getting real cooperation from the entire membership. I only hope that it will last.

With best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,
M. L. King, Jr.

MLK/csk

To Walter R. McCall

19 October 1954
Montgomery, Ala.

King invites McCall to preach at Dexter and urges his friend to attend the upcoming installation ceremony.

². See Ralph W. Riley to King, 25 October 1954, MLKP-MBU: Box 117.