

# Martin Luther King, Jr.

309 South Jackson Street  
Montgomery, Alabama

Minister

Dexter Avenue Baptist Church  
454 Dexter Avenue

President

Montgomery Improvement  
Association Inc.  
530 South Union Street

August 9, 1957

Dr. Daniel W. Wynn, Dean  
Chapel  
Tuskegee Institute  
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama

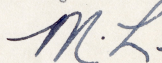
Dear Dr. Wynn:

I am in receipt of your letter of July 9, inviting me to serve as the Religious Emphasis Week Speaker at Tuskegee Institute on January 6 - 10, 1958. First I must apologize for being so tardy in my reply. Absence from the city for several days accounts for the delay.

When you first spoke to me concerning this matter I felt certain that it would be possible for me to accept the invitation. In fact I had looked forward to it with great anticipation. However, after thinking through the matter very seriously and checking my schedule very seriously, I find that circumstances make it necessary for me to decline your gracious invitation. Around that time I will be preparing to leave for India, and I am also in the process of writing a book which probably will take up most of my time through the latter part of the year. Coupled with all of this is the fact that my doctor has insisted that I slow up on my outside engagements. I can assure you that I deeply regret having to decline your very gracious invitation. I do hope you will understand the predicament under which I am working. You may be assured that my non acceptance is not due to a lack of interest, but to the inevitable pressures of an overcrowded schedule. I hope this will not seriously inconvenience you.

Let me express my deep gratitude to you for extending the invitation. I hope it will be possible to serve you and the Tuskegee community at a later date. Please feel free to call on me.

Very sincerely yours,

  
M. L. King, Jr.