

## STA OUTREACH REPORT FOR July 7 & 28, 2016 and Aug 4. '16

From Tina:

July 7, 2016: Last week a woman took three S&H books to share with her cancer survivor group. This week a young man came right to the outreach table, removed his earbuds, and inquired about the book. "Have you heard of Science and Health?" I asked. "Not at all." He proceeded to read the back cover, and little comments erupted from him as he read: "Cool - This is neat! - Free? - Thank you!"

An occasional visitor, Nehemiah, said to "say hi to Bob" who had just finished his shift at Outreach. Then he says, "I must say you guys look really fresh all the time." (I think of that lovely poem that includes, "...All fresh, All bright, All wrought in elemental Light..." Yep, that's us, and everyone viewed through the lens of Christ.

A young woman came to the table and said, "I've been eye-balling your display." She read the back cover and said, "This is so cool. I wish my Mom would read this." I invited her to take one for her Mom. And, I added, my husband was healed of alcoholism thanks to the inspiration he found in this book. "That's why I am interested," she said.

A man told me he was working on several chronic health problems including diabetes, and OCD (or something) and wants to get off his medications. I gave him credit for his efforts and mentioned that his spiritual wholeness was present and evident. he took a copy.

Another man read the back cover (boy! aren't those are some convincing three paragraphs!) and said, "Yeah, I'll read it. Can I

have it?"

And finally, an African American man swooped in and took the top copy of the CSSentinel from the stack and swept off. He didn't need Science and Health. I noticed that the cover of that issue of CSS had an African American man on it.

So there! We have five copies of Science and Health left till our new shipment arrives. We are so very grateful for the generous people and churches supporting this Spokane Christian Science Outreach. Gloria Onyuru, interviewed by the Journal's Roger Gordon in the July 2016 issue describes this on-going activity well: "Church is not the place where we meet; it's why we meet. Sometimes we meet in a home or in a party shop or in an office building [or a bus station], but the reason we meet is to pray together and to think about God."

From Bob:

Just a comment about Nehemiah that Tina mentioned. He's a black street preacher who has a wild sense of humor, teases me no end, and is just a character I thoroughly enjoy. He was amazed that I remembered his name after just one meeting and not seeing him for several months...but Nehemiah is a hard name to forget!

STA July 28, 2016 from Tina

After the short hiatus needed for a resupply of Science and Health to arrive it was nice to come on board outreach - and extra satisfying to know that the 'regulars' have noticed our absence and are glad to see us back. One fellow, who we have greeted over the years accepted a copy of The Ultimate Freedom by Wyndham. His survival story, both spiritual and physical, appealed to our friend. When introducing the book I always mention how the

author relied on his familiarity with the powerful and saving truths he remembered and had found in Science and Health to enable his survival under the most brutally inhumane conditions.

For the rest of my shift there was a steady flow of seekers. Of them only two checked out the offering and then declined. I appreciated their straightforwardness:

A man said he had already read it and “if you find someone whose been enlightened they’ll tell you some of it is off base.”

A woman asked for our small edition - she already has a larger version and had read it and wanted something to carry around.

Then a fellow came up the escalator with his arms raised over his head in supplication, crying “Heal Me!” I knew I was being humored and since I know God laughs and plays, too, I played along. I don’t think he minded or expected someone to affirm his wholeness, completeness and oneness with the Creator. He didn’t take the book, but he didn’t go away empty either.

A man and his preteen son visited with me and the father accepted a copy of the textbook and TUF - it never occurred to me to offer them in Spanish even though he told me his name was Jose’ and his son was Joseph. I didn’t want Joseph to go away without a gift and invited him to choose a Sentinel from the stack. He was pleased. We three shook hands. (I have to say I am always so pleased with the cover design of the CSS - so attractive, fresh and inviting. Thank you CSPA!)

A woman accepted SH and a CSS - she was in a hurry to catch her bus so we didn’t talk much, but she departed the outreach table informed that what she was about to read contains spirituality and healing.

The butter on the bread, so to speak, was my Godson, giving me a big hug. He is college aged and I don’t believe we have

encountered each other in the bus station before. He was on his way to the park to meet friends who were Pokemon Go players. Not being a player, but sort of familiar, I asked him what level he is on and congratulated him on achieving level 17. (And I inwardly congratulated myself for keeping “abreast of the times.”)

Two more interactions: A woman took a copy of SH and a Sentinel. I asked her if she would like to know a little about it, and she replied, “I already know I want it.”

I offered a copy to a man. He said he had already read Science and Health twice. He, too, raised his arms skyward and said, “Thank you! Mary Baker Eddy!”

And I thank her, too.

So, here I close my litany of the interactions experienced during this week's hour and a half shift.

From Theodora:

August 4, 2016:

I was amazed when I got to the Plaza and saw the huge wall wrapping all around in front of where we stand and offer our books. No more escalator and totally hidden elevator AND hardly any people. It felt very strange. Bob said he had only given out two books in an hour and a half.

Thankfully, people started to come.

My first “taker” was a quiet man who asked for a book and left with a soft thanks. Then a father with a handsome young son asked what it was about and then wanted one. He asked the boy if he would like to give it to his mother. “No. She wouldn’t want that.”

I had a delightful discussion with two women, Penny and JoAnn. They very enthusiastically each took a Science & Health and a The Ultimate Freedom.

Another man came, looked – and took.

A woman in a wheel chair, upon hearing my explanation of what Christian Science is, declared she had died twice and, yes, she wanted a book. A man who was with her and wore a neon vest like road workers wear, said he had died 3 times and he took a book too.

A rather scruffy looking long haired bearded man with loving eyes said he is a Christian Scientist and took a book to pass on to another.

Another woman in a wheel chair came by and asked, “Is this a religious Bible thumping book?” We had a long discussion about some of the ideas in S&H and when I stated that Mary Baker Eddy wrote that matter doesn’t really exist she declared firmly, “Matter does exist and it does matter.” Then she wheeled away without a copy.

A man in a flag designed shirt took a book and a woman took a book and a CS Sentinel as well as an article Tina had copies of.

All in all it was a good day for me at the bus plaza and, I am sure, for those who walked away with such rich food for thought.