

STA REPORT 2/12/15

From Bob: It was nice to be back on the job after a couple weeks off. We only gave out a few books today and the elusive #10,000 may have come and gone...don't know exactly...but we'll pick a winner when Tina has her camera along in the next outing and get a nice picture for posterity. Barb and Tina last week apparently joked about also offering the 10,000th person a FREE HEALING. Cute!

There was a charming young Saudi man who spoke perfect English and wanted to have a book...Barb will probably share his interest in her report. And another pleasant young man from Russia who was interested in the concept but then said he doesn't read English very well. Aha! Right on the table top was one of our new Russian versions. And yet another sweet young man who prays and wants to get back on a spiritual track but hasn't found inspiration recently. He read the back cover and was happy to take a book...then looked at the book tree and saw one of the few remaining metallic blue versions of S&H. "Oh, I saw that book in jail!", he said. As he left we looked at each other and couldn't imagine how a temperament like his could have been in jail for five months. Anyway, he was a happy camper, ready to start with the last 100 pages of the book.

Then there was the young man who applauded us for not applying the "LBJ Treatment" to him...more on that later. We had a long and far-ranging discussion on several subjects but before we got off the topic of religion he mentioned he had been to a local CS church as part of a comparative religion class in community college. Apparently the concepts weren't obvious to him at the time as he was so excited to hear the basic elements of CS. He kept saying, yes, I believe that. And then said this was the first time he'd ever heard a religious belief system that jibes with his personal beliefs of the nature of God and creation. And then the definition of the "LBJ Treatment": "That's when those religious adherents would stand as close to me as possible, right in my face, waving arms and shouting that theirs is the only way and I'd better get that straight!" Our readers will be pleased to know we rarely employ that technique....

From Barb: I don't have much to add to Bob's neat report, but the two hours sure were fun. For starters, one man came to the table, and looked at it for a moment or two. On the table are various copies of "Science and Health," and a prominent sign with bold red letters that say "FREE." We asked him if he would like a free book on spirituality and healing. "Yes," he said, "How much is it?" To which we both replied, "It's FREE!" He took a copy.

A woman came to the table who knew about the book. She had been given one before, but had shown it to someone and that person had kept it. Could she please have another copy for herself; she'd had a rough day and needed the book she said.

Another well-groomed woman inquired about the book earnestly. She said she was a Roman Catholic, but “had to do something.” She was assured that “Science and Health” was for anyone seeking spiritual growth. She said she certainly was, and was very grateful for the book. Both women were interested to know how Mrs. Eddy came to write the textbook, and seemed to be in sympathy for all the trials that she had, and interested in the healings that followed.

I’m sorry that I can’t add much to Bob’s comment about the Saudi man – I got so interested in a couple of the other fellows that Bob talked with that I kind of lost the details on him. But he was well-spoken, gracious, and genuine in wanting to understand other religions, I believe.