

STA REPORT 2/19/15

From Tina: Jesus fed the multitudes - thousands and thousands. We love his example and his example impels us to share, too. After those meals would Jesus have paused for a "selfie" with the crowds if he had a smart phone? I doubt it. When we shared the 10,000th copy of Science and Health (another 'meal' for so many) we thought it would be neat to record the momentous occasion with my cell phone camera. We made a little attempt to do so yesterday, and then decided not to follow through. Like our dear Master, we will continue to give thanks before and afterwards and push onward with this gifting project. Of course, our thanks has and will continue to be given to God, to the author, to the publishing company, to our donors, to the practitioners, to the guys who thought this whole outreach activity up seven years ago, to the little group of staffers, to the bus station administration for allowing us to have a spot to do our outreach week after week, and to the dear recipients of each book who so sincerely long to be spiritually fed, restored, and reconnected.

So, celebrations aside, a young woman sidled up to the book rack and told Bob she would read one chapter of S&H if Bob would give her a dollar. He told her we can't/won't do that.

She left. Later she came back, smiling and holding a soft drink. I asked her if she had succeeded in soliciting money from people and she said that is how she was able to by her drink. Then she said she had already tried to read S&H and found it very complex and confusing. She thought it was a bible translation. When I opened the book to the page that precedes the "key to the scriptures" and showed her that it was not a translation but a key that opened one's understanding she caught on. Then I asked her if she had ever read Genesis 1. Her eyes lit up and she said she loved

that chapter of the Bible. I showed her how the author also had a chapter titled Genesis and in it there were illuminating paragraphs for each verse. I mentioned this chapter her autobiography - it tells of God's true creation and her place within it.

I think our visitor got her dollar's worth.

From Bob: I don't have an actual report this week but want to note that our photo op with #10,000 was quite a bit more interesting than Tina's report indicates! And thought you on the team would like to know....

Our dear friend who manages the STA customer service desk had agreed in advance to come over from her office and take the picture. So as she walked by yesterday we thought that was propitious timing and asked a nearby lady who is also an STA employee to be the 10,000th recipient for the photo op. She agreed. Then things started to crumble. Our photographer had trouble with the camera, our recipient was in a hurry to be on her way to a meeting, and when the picture was eventually accomplished it was so dark you could barely tell who the participants were...plus the person (me) holding the "#10,000" sign out in front of us had his hand covering part of the number. It was just a laughing matter at that point.

Moral of the story: when you want to celebrate a Big Deal invite the mayor, a brass band, and professional photographers. Hope we remember that when we reach 20,000.