

STA REPORT FOR 6-10-15

From Bob:

Another nice steady day with a dozen or more books gifted. Plus, there was an appropriate situation to share a book we have recently been donated and decided to have on hand as an occasional "lead-in" to *Science and Health*, "*The Ultimate Freedom*" by John Wyndham. This is a new thing for us since from the very beginning we'd decided to stick with the textbook only. In this case, a man who's stopped by many times to chat about his unhappy experiences as a Native American, sickly senior citizen, dad, family member, etc., but has clearly never read his copy of the textbook, seemed an ideal candidate to read about others' travails in life (John Wyndham was a Christian Scientist WWII "guest" in a Japanese prison camp) and how they prevailed through metaphysical understanding and practice. He was happy to take the book and needed something useful to read on his upcoming potentially difficult trip to visit family in Montana.

Another old friend we haven't seen for a long time---one of the bus drivers, a happy Hawaiian man who wears short trousers regardless of the season or weather---came by to chat. After the usual jovial pleasantries he asked a number of questions about the nearby Reading Room and sounded pleased that he could go there to read, study and think between bus runs. That was a pleasant surprise since he'd not talked much about such things with us and has been on a different shift away from our outreach times for almost a year. This was a reminder of several things: that there is a natural warm relationship that builds with people you see and smile at and chat with over the years in a location; and, that you never know when someone is ready to hear more. Expressing the Christ as best we can in whatever circumstance is the best outreach.

From Theodora:

It was a great day to be at the bus station and greeting the many people who came by our display. How blessed we are to have this opportunity to share such wisdom with those who are open to receive. And several were open and grateful. Some were not.

One woman thoughtfully read the back cover of the book and then said she did not want one. She was wearing a Tee shirt with a Bible camp logo on it. I showed her the tenets of CS and she carefully read them, but still refused to

take a book. I appreciated her taking the time to thoughtfully read what was offered and wished her a happy day.

A man walked by and when I asked if he would like a book on spirituality he came over to the table and then said he had grown up in CS. Something in the way he said it made me think he had left CS, so I asked if that were so. He said yes. That is very interesting to me. I have noticed that none of the children of the people in my church attend, except on Easter and Christmas. I have wondered why that is. So I asked him why he had left CS. He said that when he was in college he was exposed to another religious organization - I think it was Campus Crusade for Christ - and he realized that there was so much more to the Bible than he was aware of. He felt that CS cherry picked the Bible passages they use and presented a very narrow vision. He is now a pastor of a non-denominational church here in Spokane. It was grateful for his honest and frank answer.

It was a steady flow of people going by the table and taking a book with thanks but most with little conversation. In between Bob and I had an interesting conversation and at one point he said, "We are on the front line of the CS movement here." I said if we were REALLY on the front line we would be healing people that come to our table in desperate need of healing. He said, "Yes we would be." But we're not. We want to, but we're not. I ask you, dear practitioners, to pray for our continued growth in understanding so that we do demonstrate God's healing power and witness those healings. I thank you for your love, care and prayers. I am grateful for your support.