

## STA REPORT FOR 7-9-2015

In case you don't know how to access the website, here is the

URL: <http://christianscienceoutreach.org>

You can read the current report and/or go to Archives to read past reports in PDF format.

Enjoy!!! Theodora

### From Bob:

It seems like today was a day of remarkable goodwill. People going by smiled and nodded, several people said they had CS literature and wondered what new we might have, several expressed appreciation for the book, and several people knew a bit about CS.

We gave out more than 15 textbooks but it was interesting how young people want to know about how to apply Christian Science in a very practical way, and not in a "religious way". For example, a very pleasant young man asked about addictions. I explained how we don't see our spiritual selves enslaved and that was a new concept to him as it is to most. He was nine months clean of heroin. We rejoiced together and he took the new concept away with him along with a book appropriately called *The Ultimate Freedom* which related how freedom can be won over great obstacles. Interestingly, he did not want "another religious text" but gladly took an example of how a student of CS achieved his freedom. Another young man told about how he saw a religious group holding what really must be considered hate posters during a Gay Pride parade---he lambasted those people and told how he cannot be considered Christian anymore. We talked about how that behavior is not Christian, nor is racism, nor anything else that establishes the spiritual sons and daughters of God as lesser beings. He didn't take a book but the spiritual idea of Life, Love, Truth resonated...he was a thinker. We all need more of that.

### From Tina:

Usually when someone comes up to our table to see what we are sharing a look of concern and confusion passes over their face when they mistake *Science and Health* for Scientology. As I've mentioned in earlier reports, there is genuine relief when learning what our book is 'not'. Our first visitor today said she had tried to get a job at a Scientology store in California, and was treated rudely and rebuffed, even though she found the belief system appealing. "Well, would you like a copy of *our* book?" "Oh, I had a copy - and I threw it away - it was blasphemy!" "Let's not

argue - let's part on good terms without getting any deeper." She liked that, patted my arm, and off she went. No need to get disturbed - "onward and upward" I say to myself while awaiting the next visitor (and there were many more).

A fellow using a wheel-chair stopped by and told us he had been attending our local CS church for five Wednesdays. He said he is reading the WKMBE books. Good reading! Nice encounter!

Then a lady came by, embraced me, thanked me for sharing with her a while back - she said she is moving across the nation to avoid an abusive relationship. Another hug and away she went.

On the way to outreach I stopped by the administration office at STA to sign our weekly contract. The woman who got it for me this time has, over the years, ignored us when passing by on the way to her break. I had never had a one-to-one encounter with her before today. She asked me my name to ascertain if I could legally sign the document knowing full well that I could. I told her mine, and then turned the tables, and politely asked her her name. She told me her name is Cindy. When done signing it was so nice to say, "Thank you, Cindy!" (It is always good to keep chipping away at disdain - chipping away, not for Christian Science, *per se*, but for the sacrament of Immanuel - "God with [each of] us.")