

Hi Everyone.

This is a special report because I didn't get them done while I was in Barcelona. Sorry about that. However, each report is excellent anytime you read it.

Enjoy!

Theodora

STA REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1, 2015

FROM BARB: The day was warm and bright considering it was October 1st. Still, there were plenty of folks passing through the Plaza indoors, just none stopping at the table for the first 45 minutes. So I had to sharpen my patience skills, etc. Two women did stop briefly, were mildly interested, and said they'd come back later if they had time. Then a lady came by who made the wait worthwhile. She picked up the textbook and slowly, studiously read the back cover of it. She seemed to have an accent and I asked her where she was from – Liberia! How else could I help someone from Liberia find Christian Science than at the outreach table? Anyway, she said with firmness, "I'll read it, but where do I go if I have questions?" I gave her our bookmark with local resources listed, and she was grateful.

Happily, the two women mentioned above did come back, and each took a copy of "Science and Health." Another lady who described herself as an alcoholic said she has a copy of the textbook and reads it and the Bible, but she appreciated a pep talk about her dominion over that false label. She gratefully accepted a copy of "The Ultimate Freedom" to help her see how to make what she is learning practical.

A forthright, pleasant man was drawn to the table to say he liked our sign – "God's healthcare plan is free to all." He said he liked to read spiritual things, and happily took a textbook.

Thank you, God, for this opportunity to share what I love.

STA REPORT FOR OCTOBER 8, 2015

FROM TINA: I remembered something from our outreach two weeks ago which I would like to report: A group of young women were passing by when one, a Native American, vehemently said, "I've got to have this book! Can you bring it to me? I am not allowed to bring anything back." I asked her if she was in a work-release program and she said she was. She added that there was nothing of a spiritual nature where she is staying and her group needs it so much, and then she hurriedly wrote down her address and said, "I can't tell you my name either." I gathered up some Science and Health copies and stopped at the address she gave me after outreach was over for the day. It turns out the place she 'stays' is a state department of corrections site near downtown. Even though the books are shrink-wrapped I was not allowed to leave them at the front desk. Nor could I get past three levels of supervisors. I left the building feeling like I had let the girl down, but realized that the feeling is an imposition on me so I didn't dwell on it or feel its burden. I

do hope the work-release program helps her find not only her ultimate freedom from incarceration - and find our outreach table at the bus station as well. We'll be there.

I enjoy the reciprocal connectivity with the attendants in our downtown reading room. A call came from Joyce, a staffer, while I was at our outreach table. She was sending a man over (the RR is three blocks away) because he wanted a copy of The Ultimate Freedom by C.S teacher and lecturer, John Wyndham. The fellow already had Science and Health, and I don't know the background story, but I can't express how moved I was when he came to our table about a half hour later - using crutches, the metal kind that are cuffed over the upper arms, eager to receive a copy of the book. I don't know what initiated a conversation about suicide with him - something he said, but he informed me, "I am suicidal. I've kinda wanted to rush to my meeting with God." "Well, you don't have to go anywhere or do anything drastic," I said, "He's right here now, you know." He said, "I've realized that."

Following that encounter I had some quiet time to think about "these gifts of spiritual empowerment to the community" (Scott Preller - CSS 9.21.2015) - when the acknowledgement of the 'gift' appeared in the form of a visitor who began tapping the table's display copy of Science and Health forcefully, saying, "I loved this book. The author is so deep and profound. I cried through half the chapters. Thank you for being here! Can I come around your table and give you a hug?"

I'm pleased to be on this adventure of introducing Church with the public - for it to "spring up brand new in the community we are in." (ibid.)

Tina