

5511 Michigan Blvd.
Concord, CA 94521
14 July 1986

Dear Boulder School friends:

Please forgive the mass letter. If our departure for Japan were not so soon, I would prefer to take the time for individual letters. I wanted to write to the Trustees again and others before our trip to express our pleasure as we look forward to joining the community there and to share plans for the coming school year.

First of all, I have accepted the group's recommendation to offer only the second year course next year, and to hold class just three mornings a week.

I think the excellent and broad goals of the brochure will be met by arranging the three-hour morning classes to provide a diverse but harmonious sequence of activities. During the first hour, we will focus on a couple of major questions pertaining to the Paper of the day. These questions will usually be given in advance, with written answers sometimes assigned.

During the second hour a wide variety of activities may occur. Often we will discuss points from the Paper that were not covered during the previous hour. Sometimes we will have individual/small group work on term projects while the instructor has individual conferences with students. Coordination of the experiential side of the program will be partly handled in this time slot. (Term projects for this Fall will be related to spirituality.) During this second hour we will hear student reports on their projects. Sometimes we will review articles on spirituality or "the historical Jesus." And sometimes we will have exercises in quality thinking or in public speaking.

During the third hour we will pursue a class based on associated materials. The main purpose of this hour will be to build bridges between what The URANTIA Book teaches and the thought of our contemporaries. In this way we will be able to communicate more knowledgably with others.

1. Each Fall the special focus will be on religion. Along with Part I we will look at some classical works and/or issues in theology. With Part IV we will explore spirituality and the New Testament.
2. Each Winter the focus will be on science. With Parts II and III we will sample the natural and biological sciences of evolution. With Part IV we will do studies in history, sociology, and sociology of religion.
3. Each Spring the focus will be on philosophy. With Part III we will work on constructing "a new and appealing philosophy of living" (p. 43). With Part IV we will do studies in ethics and character achievement.

I will utilize other appropriate teachers—including the students—in each phase of the curriculum. I have asked Don Guimond to help out with the New Testament study in the Fall.

The next major element of the program is based on the fact that students come to the Boulder School not only to achieve personal growth and better comprehension of The URANTIA Book. They are also preparing for some kind of ministry, to share what they are learning. It is up to the student to select his or her own ministry project. And this is one of the aspects of the program in which the unique interests of the students have a great impact on the curriculum. Not

only will the second hour at times be devoted to projects related to the students' long term ministry goal. But both the discussions during the first period and the supplemental materials considered during the third period will take into account the particular needs and interests of the students.

Let me say in advance that I do not expect everyone to start out with a clear, precise, and steady idea of his or her ministry goal. For the coming year I will not expect students to have chosen a ministry goal until the Winter. But the experiential and academic phases of the program will be more valuable if they are not merely training in a vacuum, but training intended for some future work.

So each student should select, by Winter Quarter, a certain type of ministry for which he or she wants to prepare himself or herself. A wide range of ministry projects may be inspired by The URANTIA Book. They include spiritual ministry, work for world peace, genetic counseling, and parenting training. In some of these the student will envision utilizing The URANTIA Book prominently; in others not. Some will choose to work on the project of planting "1000s of study groups." Some will choose to spread the gospel of Jesus. These ministry categories are seen as emphases, not as water-tight compartments. They represent something like a major in college, a practical concentration which should be helpful in a wide range of future activities.

Here's a Fall schedule:

Week	The first hour	The second hour (variable)	The third hour
1	Papers 120, 121,		The gospel of Mark
2	122-124		Matthew, Luke
3	125-127		John
4	128-130		Acts
5	131		Romans,
6	132-134		1,2 Corinthians
7	135-137		Galatians, Ephesians,
8	138-140		Philippians
9	141-143		Colossians;
			1,2, Thessalonians
			1,2, Timothy; Titus
			Philemon; Hebrews
			1,2,3 John; James;
			Jude
10	144		Revelation

To be sure, further details have to be added; I'm sure good ideas for change will emerge from many sources. We'll discuss these things more in August; we will also have an evaluation at midterm in order to make adjustments, and further evaluations each quarter.

It will be wonderful actually to be underway. Best wishes for your intensive!

Sincerely,



Jeff Wattles