

1701 - 18th Street
Boulder, CO 80302
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23 September 1986

Dear Dave, *Fraser*

It was good talking with you on the phone this evening, and I'm delighted that you're giving this opportunity your consideration. I worked hard to successfully sell our students of The URANTIA Book the idea that we need to become more scientific in our understanding of ourselves and others and that methodical thinking about action would be helpful to us all--and, finally, that your book, despite certain respects in which it would not directly meet the felt needs of the students would nonetheless make a good text (the best available) for our purposes.

We schedule three speakers per term; the speaker typically gets in on a Wednesday afternoon/evening so as to be able to participate in our class discussion on Thursday morning. (Our classes are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday mornings.) The presentations occur on Thursday and Friday evenings between 7:30 and 9:00 p.m. with allowances for late starts and finishes. If the person can stay through Saturday evening, we like to have an informal get-together for more getting to know to facilitate more personal acquaintances. If there are serious reasons in the way of meeting the Thursday morning class or the Saturday evening get-together, we understand. But ideally for us, you come in on Wednesday and return on a Sunday. We would provide your transportation (including making the reservations); we get you to and from the airport. You will stay with us, and we will feed you sushi and miso soup and various foreign delicacies. A mall with shops featuring every extravagant dessert imaginable is a few blocks away--but I'm sure you wouldn't be interested in such teen-age diversions (i.e., Hagiko and I would be willing to go by ourselves). We also guarantee you some chunks of quiet time, in the mountains if you wish (just a few minutes away).

The constraints at present are these: we have one speaker for January 15-16. To give ample space between guests, you should plan to come no earlier than February 5-6. You should come no later than March 5-6. I will do no more scheduling until I hear from you. I.e., your visit, if you confirm this idea, is top priority for the Winter. Other very good times would be Feb. 12-13 or Feb. 19-20. So four dates: how's that? Another consideration is that the earlier we receive you the more we will be able to apply what you teach us during the term.

I'm open to ideas you may suggest regarding your topics for the two evening presentations (which need not, of course, be straight lectures). I am hoping the people will be able to gain more objectivity about themselves and learn how to gain a better understanding of those they desire to serve. (I had to wrestle a long time with the legitimacy of people-group analysis as appropriate phase of outreach, but I have made my peace with the concept and now push it.) But if you think of something else you'd like to do, I'd love to hear it.

Your audience will be students of The URANTIA Book, about thirteen from The Boulder School and perhaps as many more from the wider community here. Think of the kind of folks that would enroll in a community college evening class. That's a good first approximation. I expect our couple of millionaires to show up (looking as casual as the norm in this easy-going town); most of the people have

families and jobs. The students have some college; one a degree in religious studies from Georgetown. On the whole they are not intending to become scholars; they want to bring the love of God to those they meet. A small minority in the community here want aggressively to promote The URANTIA Book. Most are interested in different sorts of projects. A few go to church. Nearly half my class resisted the idea of studying the New Testament as a component in our program—some because they could do Bible study without relocating to Boulder, some because that is precisely what they have left behind as no longer spiritually nourishing, some because they want to reach out to those who do not already have the spiritual security mediated by the Bible. The average age is probably thirty. They are not naive high-school graduates. One cowboy whose photography is beginning successfully to follow in the footsteps of Ansel Adams. One widowed mother of four. One person starting a medicinal herb tea business after having been a carpenter and supervisor of multi-million dollar construction projects. One representative of very high-class craft art for a New York firm that markets to wealthy corporations. One French teacher at a local high school who made a peace march from southern California as far as Colorado. One guy who has held and left over 100 jobs and who now has a tree surgery business. One ex-pilot who teaches airline personnel part-time. One dancer who grew up religiously in a synagogue. One guy who is the head of the lighting crew for several top rock groups as they do concerts around the country. One self-taught technical repairman who follows the Course in Miracles. One carpenter. One quiet fellow with not much on his resume. An one experienced talented Texan maybe shy of 50 who works as a waiter.

If you would like, I would love to tell you more of the background that The URANTIA Book gives that pertains to the topic of your choice; but see whether and when such additional data might be useful.

I hope you receive the echos of my love as I send forth my inchoate urgings to the God we petition and trust. It would be great to have you here for a few days. Hope it works.

Your friend,

Jeff