

Voices

IDEAS &
COMMENTARY

SANTA BARBARA NEWS-PRESS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2010

LETTERS TO THE NEWS-PRESS

Christian Science not faith healing

In the letter to the editor "Skeptical that faith is great healer," the author attributed to Christian Science that "all it takes is prayer and a belief in Christ to cure all things."

The author was responding to the story in the May 29 News-Press about the talk by Christian Science practitioner and teacher Marta Greenwood on the "Science of Christian Healing."

Christian Science is not faith healing. It is not a plea to God to heal. It is the science of the Christ, a subject both simple and deep, rediscovered by Mary Baker Eddy, the discoverer and founder of Christian Science, who wrote "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" to explain how Jesus healed.

Healing comes when the power and authority of the Christ is felt, which transforms and renews thought, and the body responds. There is no formula.

The treatment (prayer) is active, lifting thought, and with it comes inspiration, which

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removes fear, ignorance and sin, some combination of which is the stumbling block to healing.

Many healings are immediate. Sometimes there is more to be learned.

The letter to the editor quoted Tom Lehrer: "I am as nervous as a Christian Scientist with appendicitis."

More than a century of Christian Science healing includes healings of sin, disease, and death, and appendicitis, which one can read about at the Christian Science Reading Room at

Victoria and State streets.

Lani Meanley Collins
Santa Barbara

Whether one is nervous or not about either method of treatment is something each of us works out.

We all choose where we place our faith and trust. I would hope not to judge another's heartfelt decision as to what's best for him or her.

Ken Jurgensen
Santa Barbara

SANTA BARBARA NEWS-PRESS

MONDAY, JUNE 7, 2010

Healing method up to individual

Re: the letter-writer who quoted Tom Lehrer regarding Christian Science, I assume you believe this method of healing is not for him, and I respect and honor his feelings as to what's right for him.

Faced with an illness or inharmonious condition, each of us chooses what he or she feels is the best treatment. As a student of Christian Science, I may choose prayer or spiritual medicine. Someone else may choose material medicine.