

THE COMFORTING POWER OF CHRIST

Several years ago my friend Joseph was planning to drive from Utah to Washington, D.C., USA. He invited me to go with him for the road trip. Along the way we visited various Church history sites, and when we got to the East Coast, we drove to New York City.

We were there just two weeks after the tragic events of September 11, 2001. We felt strongly that we should visit the site where the Twin Towers had been destroyed.

We saw a soldier waving people through a crowded street as they

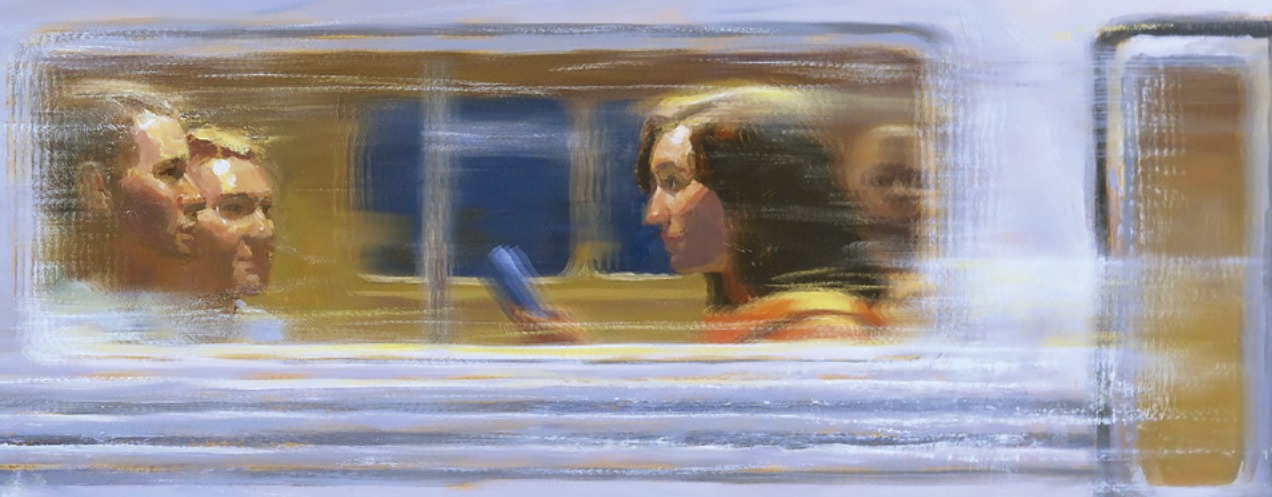
viewed the wreckage. He handed out tissues to dry people's tears.

Joseph and I could feel how deeply these events had hurt everyone, and we wanted to do something about it. We decided the best thing we could do was talk to people, listen to their stories, and perhaps share a message on the hope of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ with them.

On our way back to our hotel, we were traveling in the subway. Sitting across from me was a lady who was reading a book. I wondered what

was going on in her life. I introduced myself and told her that we were visiting New York. I said we were curious about her experiences with the recent events of September 11.

Her name was Maria, and she had lived in New York City for decades. She worked in a building a few blocks away from the towers. She told us that a few weeks before September 11, she had received a strong feeling that she should pray and ask if God was there. She said that up until that point in her life, she hadn't prayed much and



Maria told us that a few weeks before September 11, she had received a strong feeling that she should pray and ask if God was there.