

Queries for reflection, discussion and learning

Chapter 3: Grounding our practice

Queries for individual reflection

1. Do I feel upheld by eldership, and are my needs noticed in my meeting? Where does my sense of being upheld or noticed come from?
2. How does our pastoral group work for me personally? How might I contribute to building a sense of community among us?
3. What do I value about being part of the area meeting pastoral community? How far am I aware of eldership and oversight in other local meetings? What difference do connections between local meetings make to me or to pastoral care in my meeting?

Queries for pastoral groups

1. How well are our pastoral meetings working to support our service and the meeting's needs?
2. 'Eldership and oversight need to work cooperatively and collaboratively at all times.' Is this true in our meeting? How can our group support this intention? What are the blocks to cooperative working?
3. How do our connections with the area meeting pastoral committee support our local meeting responsibilities? What might we do to strengthen those connections?

Queries for meetings

1. How far do we feel eldership and oversight in our meeting cover the responsibilities outlined in *Qf&P* 12.12 and 12.13?
2. Apart from those directly involved, how aware are we of what is discussed in pastoral meetings? Would it help the meeting if we knew more? Apart from confidential matters, which areas of eldership and oversight business might be more openly known about, and how?
3. What areas of meeting activity could we do with taking a closer look at, perhaps through a spiritual review process?