

Queries for reflection, discussion and learning

Chapter 4: Meeting for worship

Queries for individual reflection

1. What does meeting for worship mean to me? Where would I be without it?
2. Have I got a significant part to play in the quiet gathering and right holding of meeting for worship? If I have, what is it? What am I actually doing that makes a difference?
3. If I'm concerned about the quality or conduct of worship, what should I do about it? What effect will it have if I raise the issue – in my meeting or with other Friends?

Queries for pastoral groups

1. How do we seek to ensure the quiet gathering of meeting for worship and how can we encourage Friends to share responsibility for this? What hinders quiet gathering before meeting, and as it starts?
2. What does a rightly held meeting for worship look like and feel like? Are we conscious of doing anything towards this at the time or at other times? Are Friends in the meeting aware of our contribution, and does it matter if they aren't?
3. What part do children and families play in our meetings for worship? How can we foster the spiritual lives of our younger members through their experience of being in meeting for worship with everyone else?

Queries for meetings

1. How well do our meetings for worship meet the spiritual needs of members of our worshipping community? How do people visiting our meeting experience worship here? Is there anything we would change if we could?
2. Are our meetings for worship rightly held? What part do we each play in ensuring this?
3. Does coming to meeting regularly matter? Does punctuality matter? How could we encourage Friends to recognise that their presence or absence affects the community as a whole?