

These seasons when infinite love and goodness visits your every heart will prove to you cool refreshments in the heat and bustle of life. Come then, whether a word be spoken or not, there will not be lacking that that is sustaining and you will go forth bearing the evidence that you have been with the Father, and that He is governing and controlling your lives and enabling you to overcome all that you may have to meet. You will grow into a more restful nature, not out of indifference, but because you are established upon a firm foundation.

I felt this morning a peculiarly tender loving feeling to you who are of the same household of faith with myself. I rejoice in the evidence that you are believers in our faith not because others have told you of it, not because you have been born into the Society of Friends, but because ye have been born again. There has been an overshadowing of the holy spirit, even as in Mary, and a quickening into life of that that is the Son of God. There has been a struggle with some before they could give up and say as did Mary, "Be it unto me according to thy word." You have had plans and calculations made, and lo there was an arresting, there was a condition arrived at where nothing would do but to give up all and say, "not my will but thine be done, O Lord." In this condition there has been the visitation of the holy ghost, and a new life begat, the evidences of which I have noted among you. This knowlege is not to be obtained at colleges or schools, nor of man, but at the footstool of divine truth. O, dear hearts, may you know an increase. Be humble, be lowly, that the lowly Christ may feed you, and minister unto the life of God in the soul. May ye hold up our blessed testimonies and religious faith that they nor trail in the dust of earth. We are not may not become dimmed or darkened, all, I fear, living bearers of our principles; many are satisfied to let others do the work and bear the burdens. But remember that ye must be thoughtful.

There is no building that can firmly stand and be beautifully complete unless every part, every nail and pin is in its place doing its individual work.

Not all are to be ministers, but every true silent burden bearer has a necessary and a holy mission to which they are called by the same master.

In the outward building we have pillars to support the edifice, so in our religious organization the pillars may be elders. They are chosen on account of their fitness for the work. May ye so control the human and rely upon the divine that ye may be worthy pillars in the church triumphant. May ye watch over the ministry, for they are but human vessels, watch always in love, never in criticism, but under a tender concern of duty which will continue them in sympathy with the ministry and both in unison with the flock.

As the elders rest upon the truth in their own souls they will be brought into closer sympathy with the young, will be enabled to realize the struggle in the young mind, giving the timely word of encouragement or, if need be, of warning, for they have larger experience, and have travelled farther on the journey of life. O ye young people, may you receive every word, treasure it up in the casket of the heavenly jewels, and you will find that it will be to you as refreshing water in a desert place.

And now I come to the overseers of our religious meetings. They have to go down into the investigations of our Society, and see how the queries are observed and lived up to. The first query is of great importance and very rarely can it be reported clearly, for there are nearly always some who do not attend when they might. We do not feel as we ought the importance and value of the blessed service and privilege of meeting with each other and with our Heavenly Father in silent worship. We are so full of the cares of the world we think we cannot spare the time.

Can ye not spare for your heavenly Father two hours a week, in order to