

## ***Advices & Queries – Unity***

Unity is found in God's will. If we are divided, when we listen in the Spirit together the way forward will become clear.

Each of us has particular transcendent experiences, and each must find ways to be true to them. When an expression of that experience is strange or disturbing, we try to sense where it comes from and how it might nourish the lives of others.

People understand the Divine in many different ways.

Listen patiently and seek the truth which other people's opinions may contain for you. Avoid using hurtful criticism or language chosen to provoke anger or fear.

Do not allow the strength of your convictions to betray you into making statements or allegations that are unfair or untrue.

Think it possible that you may be mistaken.

Cultivate affectionate regard and mutual care for each other. Look for times and occasions in addition to meeting on first days to gather together affirming a common life that leads to a deeper unity.

- • When problems and conflicts arise, how do we work to resolve them in a spirit of love and humility?
- How do we let go of our individual desires and let the Holy Spirit lead us to unity?
- How do we open ourselves to the diversity of culture, language, and expressions of faith in our yearly meeting and in the world community of Friends?
- How do we respect the reputations of others? Do we avoid gossip? Do we protect necessary confidentiality?
- How careful are we to avoid manipulating and exploiting one another?