

## ***Advices & Queries – Home and Family***

Live in the assurance that all are children of God.

Hospitality in the home is a vital force for spiritual nurture; it helps all family members learn to respond to that of God in everyone.

Know that a family may be made of single adults, of differing combinations of adults, or of adults and children, sharing a bond of love. Meeting provides an essential sense of family for those without families, including those made single after years of marriage or other life commitment.

We give home and family priority in our lives.

The meeting can support, yet cannot replace, the family in the care of children. At the same time, every member of meeting is responsible in some measure for the care of families, including children.

Stay aware of the many ways the meeting can act as a family – and the ways it cannot.

Be both bold and tender in offering assistance to families that may be experiencing discord or domestic abuse.

- How do we make our homes places of friendliness, peace, and renewal, where Spirit is real for those who live there and those who visit?
- How do we maintain a climate of love and trust in our meeting which invites families to be open about their satisfactions and challenges?
- How do we keep commitments outside the home from encroaching on the time and loving attention the family needs for its health and well-being?
- Does our home life support our need for both a sense of personal identity and shared living?
- What supports do we offer to the aging, the widowed, the separated or divorced, and members of families affected by disruption or trauma?
- How does the meeting assist families to improve communication, family life, and the rearing of children in a context of love?