

## ***Advices & Queries – Peace***

We practice love and peace-making within our families, in our meetings, and in the greater Quaker community. This experience will support our testimony of peace as we are involved in the larger world.

Peace is the state in which we are in accord with the Divine, the earth, others, and ourselves. We know that true, lasting peace among us is attainable through unity in the life of the Spirit.

When a conflict is beginning, we take steps to resolve it quickly and reduce the damage it does. When a conflict has ended, we take steps toward forgiveness, reconciliation, and restoration. In this way we help break the cycles of violence.

We work to create the conditions of peace, such as freedom, justice, cooperation, and the right sharing of the world's resources.

As we work for peace in the world, we search out the seeds of war in ourselves and in our way of life. We refuse to join in actions which lead to destruction and death. We seek ways to cooperate to save life and strengthen the bonds of unity among all people.

- Do we live in the virtue of that life and power that takes away the occasion of all war?
- Do we refrain from taking part in war as inconsistent with the Spirit of Christ? In what ways do we take part in war indirectly?
- What are we doing to remove the causes of war and to bring about the conditions of peace? Where there is hatred, division, or strife, how are we instruments of reconciliation and love?
- Do we recognize that we are capable of both violence and peace? How do we build bridges that lead us to face and resolve conflict?
- How do we communicate to others an understanding of the basis of our peace testimony?
- As we work for peace in the world, how are we nourished by peace within ourselves, our families, and our meetings?