

Advices & Queries – Stewardship of Money and Other Resources

- We seek a sound relationship to money and other resources, making decisions that reflect our testimonies of integrity, simplicity, equality, peace, and care for creation.

Our household and meeting spending plans are evidence of what is important in our lives.

We pay a fair wage to our employees and offer comparable pay for comparable work.

We refrain from hazardous speculation or participation in business matters that may be ethically suspect. We seek to invest our money and time in ventures that are planned to benefit the social or environmental good as well as to provide a fair rate of return.

Obsession with the things we have is a sickness. So also are envy and helplessness when we feel we haven't enough. Whatever our state of economic affairs, gratitude for what we have helps to prevent worries over losing it or resentment of others who live differently.

We accept our gifts and recognize with profound gratitude any opportunities to share them generously. We embrace and uphold Friends commitment to improving the human condition with all available gifts.

As Friends, we examine our decisions about money and other assets, and look in them for the seeds of war, injustice, and environmental damage.

- How do we use our time, talents, and material possessions to reflect that they are gifts from God?
- As individuals and as a meeting community, how do we show that we are stewards and not just owners of the property and resources in our care?
- How does the Spirit guide us in our relationship to money? How do our choices reflect the working of Truth and Love in our lives and in the world?
- How do we avoid judging others, and ourselves, by worldly criteria of wealth or status? How do we answer to that of God in those who have less than we do? in those who have more than we do?
- How do we use the gifts we are given in ways that build community and bring us closer to the Source and Center?
- What is our "fair share"? How do our social and economic choices help or harm our vulnerable neighbors – human and non-human? Can we identify "the seeds of war" in our choices?