

Wisdom Circles Sharing Sheet

Living Wisely / Dwelling in Wisdom from Day to Day

March 2018



Ecclesiasticus (Sirach) 6:32-33 (New Jerusalem Bible):

If you wish it, my [beloved], you can be taught; apply yourself,
and you will become intelligent. If you love listening,
you will learn, if you pay attention, you will become wise.

March's Focus: Simplicity

Setting: a candle, a cloth, an image, or symbol on the theme or monthly focus.

Music, Song, or Chant: To be determined

Opening Prayer: Holy wisdom, guide us in our longing for your simplicity and peace in our lives and the world. Open our minds and hearts in our daily living to see with clarity and with your guidance to respond to the needs that are presented. Amen

Reading: What is simplicity?

According to Webster's dictionary it can be:

a state of being uncomplicated or uncompounded: innocence or naiveté;
Freedom from pretense or guile; clarity or directness of expression;
being easy to understand or use.

A commitment to simplicity in the midst of the world is a delicate balancing act. It is always in need of retuning, further inquiry, and attention. But I find the notion of voluntary simplicity keeps me mindful of what is important, of an ecology of mind and body and world in which everything is interconnected and every choice has far-reaching consequences. You don't get to control it all. But choosing simplicity whenever possible adds to life an element of deepest freedom which so easily eludes us, and many opportunities to discover that less may actually be more. (Jon Kabat-Zinn, *Wherever You Go There You Are*)

Focus Question:

Sharing: All have the opportunity to share on the readings and reflection for this month.

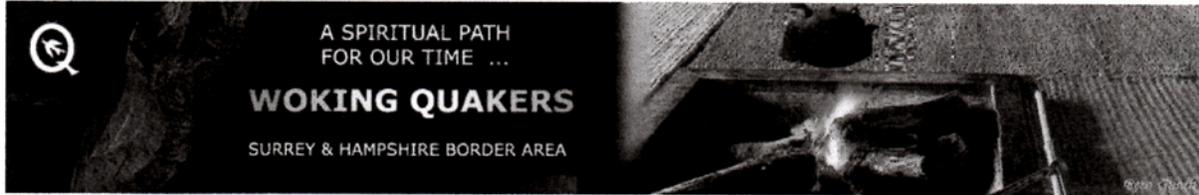
Wisdom Word: After all have shared, allow a word or phrase to capture the heart of the group's experience.

Circle Prayer/Prayer Intentions: Bring to your circle the people, places, and circumstances for which you wish to pray.

Closing Prayer: See attachment

Prepared by Sue White and Ann Casagrande, DW

Woking Quakers



Prayer: Simplicity & Peace



A Prayer for Simplicity and Peace, by Michael Leunig, Australian poet/cartoonist

Dear God,

We give thanks for places of simplicity and peace.
Let us find such a place within ourselves.

We give thanks for places of refuge and beauty.
Let us find such a place within ourselves.

We give thanks for places of nature's truth and freedom,
of joy, inspiration, and renewal,
places where all creatures may find acceptance and
belonging.

Let us search for these places in the world,
in ourselves, and in others.

Let us restore them. Let us strengthen and protect them,
and let us create them.

May we mend this outer world
according to the truth of our inner life
and may our souls be shaped
and nourished by nature's eternal wisdom.

Amen

Margaret R