

**William Taber's "Four Doors to Meeting for Worship"**  
**Pendle Hill Pamphlet #306, 1992**

Tuesday Gathering of Friends, December 12, 2023 *and* AFDS, December 17, 2023

**Door Two: The Door Inward — When does Meeting for Worship begin?**

1. "Now that we are ready to pass through the second door, *the Door Inward*, to actually begin the meeting, we may ponder the question, "When does the meeting actually begin?" "The holy place is not the meeting room — it is the convergence of willing souls with the Stream, which can occur anywhere, anytime. ... a reality which has always been there from the beginning of time, waiting for us to join it."
  
2. The Door Inward may be may come from "lifting the Meeting in prayer throughout the week"; anticipating or visualizing on the Meeting to come; "the night before... remembering that in some mysterious way tomorrow's meeting for worship already *is now*. ... For some, the time of awakening on Sunday morning can be full of the joyous wonder and sense of holy expectancy...". On this day the Stream will be there waiting for us to enter with our dear friends.
  
3. "Most of these approaches include three important qualities.
  - First is **desire**, a profound yearning to be in the presence; ....
  - The second is **focus** ... toward a relaxed, alert attentiveness in the presence of God.
  - And third is **trust**, a synonym of faith, for it tasks trust to go out into the deep water; it takes trust to let go and rest or float in the deep and Living water of the Stream"
  
4. Taber lists nine approaches that may be useful for going inward,  
"with two cautions":
  - "As we learn what it feel like *just to be present* , then technique becomes far less important than our desire to be fully present."
  - "After some difficult meetings, we may wonder if we ever got there, because the mind had seems so full of distractions... . ...we gradually realize that the reality of God's continuing, transforming work within us becomes more and more evident as we realize that there is a new steadiness, calm, and centeredness underlying our daily lives."

**"Door One: The Door Before"** — the ways you connect with Spirit during the week — was offered on November 14 and 19, each "DOOR" will be offered for discussion twice, due to the richness of this pamphlet and desire for more persons to participate.