

**FOUR DOORS TO MEETING FOR WORSHIP, William Taber, 1992  
Pendle Hill Pamphlet 306**

**Door Three: The Door Within (Pages 17-26)**

Tuesday Gathering of Friends; and Adult First Day School  
March & April, 2024

“It is not uncommon for the message to parallel or to complement our own stream of thought or for it to speak directly to some problem or question within us. ... if we *absorb* what words rather than react to them, we may discover that God is using the words to open us to some blind spot or prejudice or lack of faithfulness... . p. 22.

“... *silent ministry* is open everyone in the meeting. ... The faithfulness of such invisible, secret ministry not only feeds and inspires gifted vocal ministry, but it also helps prepare the meeting to be receptive to life-changing ministry when it comes

“I came to realize how important are these silent inconspicuous people are who are practiced, skilled ...at just being totally present before God while engaging in the wordless. Prayer of lovingly holding the entire meeting up into that Presence.”<sup>1</sup> p. 25.

”... the *inward motion* can lead to many God-called activities other than speaking in meeting. This attention to Holy Spirit guidance in daily life becomes very important, since each day is filled with innumerable choices, many of them apparently equally good—until the *inward motion* helps us discern, even in “little“ things.” p. 24

“Thus the ultimate test of our response to the Inward Work of Christ lies not in the way *we feel during* the meeting for worship, but in the way *we relate afterward* to our fellow humans and to all things in God’s Creation.” p.21

Queries:

- Has your need for ministry ever been met in silent worship or through what was spoken/?
- What has the impact been when someone has ‘spoken your message’ before you stood to speak it yourself?
- If you tend to be silent in Meeting, how do these quotes reflect your experience?
- In what ways has your feeling during the Meeting translated to action after the Meeting?

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<sup>1</sup> All quotes directly from Four Doors, including Taber’s emphasis. My additions are in brackets.