



Discussion Guide

for select articles in

Western Friend

Some general approaches to group discussions:

- Choose a text no longer than three pages. Bring enough copies for everyone to share.
- Begin and end with a moment of worship.
- Begin by asking one volunteer to read the whole text aloud. (Having one reader helps people focus on the meaning better than multiple readers.)
- Perhaps simply conduct worship-sharing about the text.
- Perhaps ask people to begin by discussing the text in pairs or triads.
- Perhaps ask different small groups to begin by discussing different sections of the text.
- End by asking everyone to share reflections with the whole group: Which ideas raised earlier were especially surprising or meaningful?

River Magic

by Geoff Poole

What are Euler's and Lagrange's views of fluid dynamics?

What spiritual significance does the author see in these mathematical models?

What other scientific models have spiritual implications?

Desert Church

by Carl Magruder

What hardships are described in this article?

How does the author's use of the word "Christian" compare with more typical uses?

What is the importance of foot washing?

"Tell Our Story."

by Peter Husby

What does the author mean by "law enforcement crisis" and "human rights crisis"?

Why does the author find "an apathetic and uninformed" public to be his primary concern?

What might Friends meetings do to help more people hear migrants' stories?

A Progressive Water Policy Platform

by Dan O'Connell

What historical factors does the author explain are behind injustices in the Central Valley today?

What particular contributions does the author believe Friends can make on behalf of social justice?

If a universal "human right to water" were fully recognized, how would that change things?

Water Camp

with members of the Quaker Oaks Farm community

What tangible learning experiences does Quaker Oaks Farm offer to campers?

Which "camp lessons" drew on inter-cultural awareness?

How do traditional Wukchumni ways of life offer models for life today?

Bread upon the Waters

by Bethany Lee

Which preparations for this voyage were indispensable?

How did this real adventure affect the author's reading of Ecclesiastes 11:1?

What different meanings are associated with the word "bread" in this article? With "water"?