

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?

A Personal History with Korea

by Dan Strickland

What impacts by the U.S. on Korea does the author relate in the history told here?

How does the author's telling of Korean history fit with what you knew already?

Do you agree that the central U.S. interest in Korea is to maintain U.S. troops in Japan?

Where have all the Flowers Gone?

by John Huyler

How does the author describe the changes in "service" between twentieth-century society and today?

What does the author see as necessary for involving more young people in the Society of Friends?

How might we "follow those examples of initiative and experimentation in our meetings"?

A Quakerly Dance Form

by Sue Lauther

What steps led up to the workshop that the author brought to IMYM 2018?

What might "kinesthetic worship" be?

What lessons from Contact Improvisation might deepen the experience of silent waiting worship?

Service: A Gateway to Fulfillment

by Yogi Sharma

What different areas of life does the author describe as opportunities for service?

How do you see these as different: "ministry I want to share" versus "ministry as service for everyone"?

What life experiences distract us from an attitude of service? Which promote it?

Two Quaker Observers to COP24

by Annette Carter and Frank Granshaw

How would you describe the purpose of COP24?

Which activities at COP24 helped clarify problems and which helped generate solutions?

What special role could Friends take to help others come "to the table" without "taking over the table"?

Be a CASA

by John and Lynn Dixon

What factors in our social-service and legal systems hinder officials from supporting individual children?

What special abilities does a CASA have for helping children who are in the social service system?

Which Friends in your meeting can you imagine serving as CASAs? Which of your other friends?