

Meeting for Worship for Healing: A Friendly Guide

By Richard Lee

Compiled from meetings with Florence Rose Morgan in the 1960's and 70's. Additional information is from meetings with members of Friends Fellowship of Healing in Worthing, Sussex (8/1992) and in London at Britain Yearly Meeting (5/1995). Other sources include *Towards Wholeness* and Hobart Mitchell's *Prayer for Healing*. (Revised 7/2016)

Intention: The intention is to help someone who **wants** to be helped. It is important first to have the person's permission before offering prayer. It is also vital that a Meeting for Worship for Healing be **a gathering for Wholeness** rather than a time for despair, grief or anger. Often Friends are worried, frightened and under stress, and then we can lose sight of the potential and the **power of God's Spirit through prayer and love**.

Procedure: Friends gather together with the intention of prayer/worship **focusing on the Inner Light and the desire for Wholeness**. **PLEASE KEEP IT SIMPLE!**

1. Begin the Meeting by sharing **signs of hope** and by recapping the condition of the **situations prayed for previously**. Based upon this discussion, add or delete situations from the new prayer list as is necessary. Briefly discuss the new/continuing **requests for prayer prior to worship**, so that Friends are familiar with the requests.
2. Friends may decide to **pray about a concern** such as healing the earth, or healing a conflict/war, or healing a neighborhood. Our group has prayed for animals during hunting season and for trees after an ice storm.
3. The individual who is Clerking then lists the requests. The Clerk makes a **brief reminder note** which includes the **name** of the **individual and/or concern** and a **brief description of the request**. Notes are used as an aid towards placing the request in prayer. Later these notes are dated and kept with previous ones for follow-ups, prayer commitments and for reference.
4. Please **sit close together** in a circle. (Friends may have hands or knees touching in a fairly tight circle.) One of the experiences Friends have in Meeting for Worship for Healing is that it is a **Gathered Worship** which unites us in the Spirit.
5. During worship/prayer, the **Clerk places each request separately** into the silence in an order **as the Spirit moves**.
6. Each request is therefore held in the Light **separately**. The Clerk discerns the amount of time spent in prayer/worship for each request **as the Spirit moves**.
7. During worship, please **hold each individual or each request** in the **Light**. A message/prayer may, or may not, arise concerning the situation. **Silence with no messages is not unusual**. However, there may be **more messages in Meeting for Worship for Healing than there might be at Worship on First Day**, depending on the **movement of the Spirit**. Worship is for about an hour.
8. Messages for those held in the Light are sometimes in the form of **prayer or song**. There may be a message in the form of an **insight into what is needed** for healing to progress and to bring about **Wholeness**. Please note that some messages may be meant to be **shared privately** with others after worship.
9. It is best to take on **no more than 8 requests per meeting**. At the close of worship/prayer, after the last request, Friends may have a **time of open prayer**. The Clerk identifies this time and then names or situations may be placed into the silence. Each name or situation is **interspersed with silent worship/prayer**.
10. The Clerk, with a shaking or a linking of hands closes worship. It is best to **meet regularly** at least once a month at the same time and in the same location.
11. The **Clerking position may rotate**, although some gifted Friends may be more consistent Clerks. Please try to **let the Spirit decide** who is to Clerk.
12. Friends often experience the **recipient of prayer** being held in **healing, loving Light**. If you get confused, or off track, hold the whole group in the **Light/Prayer**.