NPYMYM Committee on the Discipline
Notes from NPYM plenary session on the *Faith & Practice*
Reed College, 7/20/2007

compiled by Jay Thatcher, edited 8/5/2007

Timothy started speaking at 8:22 p.m.
David C. started speaking at 8:27 p.m.
Debbie T. at 8:30 p.m.
Susan at 8:32 p.m.
Jay T. at 8:33 p.m.
Consideration of the *Faith & Practice* ended at 9:07 p.m.

1. **Does this organization for the first part of Faith and Practice speak to Friends' experiences?**
   How do queries relate to this outline? New sets of queries?
   Queries in their own section? Should we create a yearly cycle of queries?
   Queries? Arranged by month?
   Who are the contacts for sending material out? In Port Townsend?
   Peace, not Harmony, please. Harmony as the name of the testimony. Have not always found peace to be harmonious or harmony to be peaceful. A particularly difficult time to shift the name of from peace.
   Would appreciate an explanation of how these pieces relate to harmony.

Queries in their own section?

2. **What parts seem especially useful?**

3. **What might we omit?**
   Index, please. Hope the excellent index continues
   Appreciate the quotes from Quakers in history. Very helpful to new Friends.

Quotes from Friends.
Should it be titled *Fruits of the Spirit*? That has a specific scriptural reference, which e. is something different from the Bible from what’s below. Might call it Quaker testimonies

*Fear & Safety* should become something more positive and fruitful—maybe *Courage &...*
We have been called to a different way of dealing with safety than the culture around us.

4. **Are there other ways of living in the Spirit that should be included?**
5. **Are there other fruits of the Spirit that should be included?**
   Like to see something about mysticism in here, something about being mystical.
   Where do we talk about that of God in all persons...or the idea of living in the presence of God.
   Instead of *Fruits of the Spirit*, it could be titled *Quaker Testimonies*
   Right sharing of economic and other resources
   Creativity is a fruit of the spirit.
   Witness under integrity. Balance between the inward and the outward.
   Is right relationship dealing with international or personal guidance?
   Witness

6. **How much change to the 1993 Faith and Practice are we eager to make?**
   What about marriage, death and such?
Faith & Practice, 2nd ed. is inspired.

Honesty—more on that.

Love

There is a whole section that needs to be looked and much of it has nothing to do with vision and structure.

Current book is an inspired document, widely used. Hope you will preserve as much of its spirit and language as you can.

Concern about addressing the issue of honesty. Perhaps putting it under integrity. Aye is aye and nay is nay is not sufficient. Address the testimony more directly.

The word “love” is absent. It should be there: love is the primary force behind evolution. Altruism, eros physical love.