

Reflections

By Oliver Darbyshire, Okehampton Quaker Meeting

Nowadays it often seems everything must be done quickly, so when a difficult decision has to be made it can seem to be a stumbling block. You can't always press a button and get a satisfactory answer. If you don't know which path to take, or how to solve a problem, you can have sleepless nights worrying and changing your mind. At such times consider quietly emptying your mind and putting the problem in God's hands and you may find that "Way will Open". It is a Quaker expression that I have often found helpful.

I am reminded of the poem (well known as the hymn, Dear Lord and Father Of Mankind) by a Quaker called John Greenleaf Whittier, one verse of which sets a helpful mood:

Breathe through the pulses of desire
Thy coolness and Thy balm;
let sense be dumb, its heat expire;
speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,
O still small voice of calm!

Likewise the words of Psalm 46 verse 10 come to mind
"Be still and know that I am God"

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