

PROOF IN OUR FINGERTIPS

I believe that a big part of the mission of Quakers is teaching each one their own personal responsibility. While the pastor is called. So is everyone else. Perhaps that which we are called to do varies with each one. But nonetheless the call is just as present, prevalent and a priority to each one that would follow the Quaker path of equality and realization.

Helping each one accept this personal responsibility and assume their own particular calling must then be a great part, of the calling of a Quaker minister, if indeed we are following our own mandates.

Moreover the overarching call of Christ's message and Mission is that each one accept their own personal call. You can call it the priesthood of believers or you can call it simply following the commands of Christ.

But we cannot truthfully be heart committed Christians, without obeying His mandate to serve.

In this light, I have invited my young friend Justin fryer, to share with us what God has laid on his heart today. After he shares these thoughts, I will continue with the message, very much strengthened by and built upon what Justin will now share with us.. Justin's thoughts will be "The proof of God is in our fingertips." And my message afterward will be: "On the shoulders of Great Love."

Justin's message:

"The proof of God in our fingertips."

With the world we live in people are always using the cliché, "seeing is believing." A lot of us have to have something right in front of us to say it is real.

I believe however, despite what the world says, that not all things can be seen. Some things are real but can't be physically seen or touched. Take the wind for instance, you can't touch it or see it. The greatest example of something we can feel but not see is love. We all feel love in different ways. You can however see what it does and feel it. God is the same way. We can't physically see Him but we can see what he does if we take the time to look. And we can most definitely feel his love and holy spirit if we choose. And if you feel it, there is no denying or doubting it. It is a feeling that is unlike any other. A feeling that only comes from the father. It is like a reawakening for your soul. As Christians it is up to us to shine the light of God to the world. The best way to do that is by living the best life we can giving thanks to God in all we do. People will see the light through our lives and

hopefully breathe life to them. When people are breathed new life, they have a better understanding of life in general. Whether it is giving thanks to God for the good things or searching for answers through the bad times. They cling to God in parts of their life that maybe they wouldn't have before. For instance in Romans it gives a perfect example of such. Romans 8:28 says

Romans 8:28-

And we know that God causes everything to work together[a] for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them

God will also remove iniquities from our lives if they don't belong so we may be more fruitful. In John 15:1-2 it says

John 15:1-2- "I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn't

produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more.

More proof of God can be seen through changes in people so they may be a better follower of Jesus. God loves us and wants to see us do well and be happy. He wants us to be good to one another and to ourselves. All the proof we need of God is right at our finger tips. All we must do is accept Him and strive to live a life that honors Him.

* End of Justin's introductory message.

On the shoulders of great Love

Intro. Justin talked to us a lot about things that are there that we just can't see.. I want to piggy back that thought and share “On the shoulders of great love.”

So much of life is dependent on things we trust, and yet cannot see. Still yet many will claim not to believe in anything they can not see. But no one can exist successfully in our world, unless they believe in things they cannot see.

But each time we step in a taxicab, we believe in a driver we don't know & whose abilities we're not sure of. And each time we step in an airplane, we entrust Our Lives to a captain, who's training we trust but have not certified. However in the case of our faith in Christ. We put our faith in a belief source that while not visible to our eyes, is in every way plausible and clearly based on truth.

And if we have this God kind of Faith then it in turn shapes everything else about our lives.

Romans 8:28-

And we know that God causes everything to work together[a] for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

My shoulders for my children

1-When my children were small, they used to love to ride on Daddy's shoulders. I loved it too. And because I took my children hiking in the out-of-doors often,

There were times for safety sake that I put them on my shoulders and carried them. The point of that being their safety. And that often when I carried them on my shoulders it was to keep them safe from a situation that might be harmful, in their own self reliance, st that moment. God treats us with such helpful wonderful insight and care also.

My shoulders, when doubting my own strengths to go through.

2. When I was young & facing a particularly difficult experience, and had very little faith in myself. I'll never forget that my sister Detra told me to realize always that I have very big shoulders. And if they will carry a lot.

" you have big shoulders Tim. They will carry a lot."

**Jesus shoulders carried His own cross.
John 19:17**

3. Jesus carried His cross on

His shoulders

Jesus shoulders now carry us.

4. Poem footsteps, it was then that God carried us / JESUS / behind all the rest.

One night I dreamed a dream.
As I was walking along the beach with my Lord.
Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.
For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,
One belonging to me and one to my Lord.

After the last scene of my life flashed before me,
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.
I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,
especially at the very lowest and saddest times,
there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it.
"Lord, you said once I decided to follow you,
You'd walk with me all the way.
But I noticed that during the saddest and most
troublesome times of my life,
there was only one set of footprints.
I don't understand why, when I needed You the most, You
would leave me."

He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never
leave you
Never, ever, during your trials and testings.
When you saw only one set of footprints,
It was then that I carried you."

As a shepherd's shoulders gather a lost sheep. Even so Jesus shoulders gather us back to the right course in life, when we go astray and seek His help.

5. Carrying His Sheep home

Luke 15:3-

New Living Translation

3 So Jesus told them this story: 4 “If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them gets lost, what will he do? Won’t he leave the ninety-nine others in the wilderness and go to search for the one that is lost until he finds it? 5 And when he has found it, he will joyfully carry it home on his shoulders.

Jesus promises to be the ultimate solution for mankind and carry us in His love when we let him.

6- Isaiah 9:6

For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us;

And the government will rest on His
shoulders;

Source: <https://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Shoulders>

God has made Provisions for us through His great love, to experience His presence in the pathway of life. May we find his shoulders even now, as we seek to walk in His ways.