

1889

Minutes
of
advice
Continued.

66

beddings of life are easily checked, and where a meeting allows any right exercise to be interfered with, it ceases to be a true Friends' meeting.

"Where there are three, there is a church." The only form of worship that has received the express sanction of our Redeemer, is described by Himself in the words, "Where two or three are gathered together in My name there am I in the midst of them."

If, when we are gathered together, we really wait for and let under the ability which God giveth, none of our meetings will be without a living and powerful ministry; for Christ has Conquered, and in His power we also shall be made victorious.

Let us beware of holding our meetings on any other basis than that of direct dependence upon His guidance and power. Pre-arrangement of services, however expedient it may seem, is a dangerous limitation of the freedom of the Spirit. Let us come to the

67

1889

Minutes
of
advice
Continued.

meeting in joyful dependence upon the Lord, and as His hand is laid upon one and another in the congregation, and each responds to His touch, the meeting will be held to the glory of God, and to the winning of souls. The Lord has a special place and work for each. How are we filling the position He has given to us? The development of Christian character is a work of time. It is therefore most important that we should at all stages of our experience be faithful to the will of the Lord. Unfaithfulness today will mar our fitness for the work of tomorrow.

Let us not judge of the importance of obedience by the apparent importance of the service to which we have been called. One circle is just as perfect as another. Its perfection depends in no degree upon its size. So is it with our service in the name of the Lord. If we but fill the circle that He gives us, we shall be made the greatest possible blessing.