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A SUMMARY OF THE EXERCISES IN THE MEETING ON
MINISTRY AND OVERSIGHT.

The Apostle Paul appealed to the Thessalonian Church for their prayers and sympathy when he said, "Pray for us that the word of the Lord may have free course and be glorified."

Intercessory prayer is the highest type of prayer. It is not beseeching the Lord for personal blessings; but, forgetting ourselves, we implore the Divine blessing on others.

A great many people have an idea that ministers of the Gospel live so near the Lord that they are removed from the need of the prayers of the Church. If that great Apostle—a man of such large gifts, and who lived so near to the loving heart of our Heavenly Father—felt his need of the prayers of the Church, how much more should we in this day feel such a need?

We frequently use the expression the "Word of God," and hold up the Bible as though that was the *only* word. Let us not be too narrow and restricted in our interpretation of the word of the Lord. The word is also the message of salvation, and we would not be consistent if we did not believe that it becomes the fresh revelation of God to us.

"Whoso offereth praise glorifieth Me." Then, in everything let us give thanks; for "this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning us."

The Lord intends every child of His to receive His baptism—the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Have we submitted to Him so that we can be controlled and used by Him, or are we frustrating the grace of God? Paul says (Gal. 2: 21): "I do not frustrate the grace of God." Let us not frustrate the grace of God by refusing it.

No Christian should ever be satisfied without receiving the Holy Spirit. He is very near to us. It is our Heavenly Father's will not only that we should have the Holy Spirit, but that the Holy Spirit should have us. Will we not open our hearts and make room for Him? Let us not wait to understand all about it, but let *self* move out of our hearts, and let Him move in and dwell there.

The work of the Spirit is to soften the heart, and make us loving, gentle and courteous. May we all strive to be controlled by the Spirit of God rather than by our own.

There are certain things which it is impossible that the Holy Spirit should authorize. Things which are not truthful, nor just, nor loving, cannot be under the direction of the Holy Spirit.

A Friends' Meeting, under the control of the Holy Spirit, is different from almost any other religious gathering. To speak and conclude in the power of the Spirit needs watchfulness on the part of the speaker.

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An interesting report of the labors of our dear friend James C. Thomas during his visit to Ireland and England as given at a joint session of the Yearly Meeting was read at this time. We acknowledge the goodness of the Lord in preserving his going out and his coming in and we trust that a rich blessing may rest upon the service in which he was engaged.

The subject of the opportunities and responsibilities of Overseers was brought to the attention of this meeting and to the end that the matter may receive more attention and be further considered it was proposed that a Conference of the Overseers should be held during our next Yearly Meeting. We have appointed a committee to carry out the concern provided it shall be approved by the Yearly Meeting. The following Friends were appointed as that committee: John R. Carey, James Carey & Mary McCullough and Margaret H. Elliott.