

- b. The qualifications for a participant are such as any one can meet. The spiritual matters are between him and the Lord and as the Lord has given him a new life, it should be within his province to enjoy it. No special gift is required for participation in worship...an attitude and a loving heart are the great requirements and should be true of every believer.
- c. A proper order should be observed and respect for the Lord and His people is necessary.
- d. While there is nothing wrong with silence...it serves a good function when we are reaching out to the Lord in our hearts, it is not good if it is just the awkward silence of non-participation.
- e. The emphasis throughout the meeting is on the Lord, not on the ones who participate.

9. Preview of the next lesson:

4.16

In our next discussion we will talk about following the leading of the Spirit in a meeting and the procedure or progression of the meeting from the opening hymn to the breaking of bread and the closing of the session.

Several times I have stated the following: we must not legislate meetings to a fine degree...we must see that the heart of worship is under a higher order than a set-program of service. But we want things decently and in order, also.

10. Some Questions:

4.17

- a. A private question: when there are long periods of silence in a meeting, what does your mind do? Does it worship or does it wonder who is going to do something next? If the latter is your question...what does it indicate you should do?
- b. Suppose two men rose to pray at the same time. Do you think one of them is not led of the Spirit? Which one of them should give place to the other?
- c. Suppose a brother gives a bit of edifying ministry that is particularly appropriate and Christ-honoring. Do you think it would be proper to mention it to him later and thank him for aiding your worship? Can you see some points both positive and negative in this regard?
- d. Now it seems to me that much said in this discussion would not be necessary if we all had a common concept of the Lord's presence. But you must know that many do not. Why? What may be done about it?