

- d. A personal watch on spiritual life matters is needed. Don't allow accounts to go unsettled. A daily communion with the Lord and a maintenance of honest relationships with others is a key help.
- e. Keep personal problems in perspective. In the worship meeting we are not putting persons up for display, we are presenting and adoring the Lord. We do want the matters of spiritual health and godly walk kept in proper order but, in the affairs of life, there is no one who is totally without fault. If only they could take part...the meetings would be very quiet and extremely short.

6.6

- 3. Remember: So far as the worship meeting is concerned, we may put it this way. You were invited by the Lord, accompanied by the Spirit, and equipped through the grace of God to honor the Lord and strengthen His testimony among His people. With such an invitation and with such enablement, who could continue to feel "inferior", "out of place", "inadequate," etc.?

C. Notes on Some of the problems that occur among the participants

6.7

- 1. Brief notes on some of the kinds of brethren who do not generally promote the best interest of the meeting:
  - a. The greedy ones...who consume much time week after week and who feel hurt if anyone besides themselves serves in a particular function. We must be careful in judgment about time...worship is not well run by a stopwatch. But it is obvious under our schedule that if any brother takes a preponderance of time...he is not thinking, to say the least, of the total company...and that suggests less than the right attitude.
  - b. The "mumblers." These are honest brethren with a real word of praise, prayer, etc., but they simply cannot be heard. The vast, vast majority of men can learn to speak with sufficient force and clarity as to be understood. If one has a speech impediment, this can be identified and such a brother may have a welcome place. But with most it is a matter of simply not speaking loudly enough. In a large room, one does well to turn so as to speak in the direction of the group.
  - c. The argumentative...a select that must decide every issue. If one sees a sister come uncovered, you can predict where his ministry will be. That is bad enough...but if someone rises to disagree with him...super bad is the right word. An argumentative brother should be spoken to by the elders in a loving but emphatic way so as to help him understand where debates should and should not be held.
  - d. The monotonous brother...both in tone and content or in either. We must still be careful with our determinations