

Resources for Quaker Teens at Meeting and Home

I'm sometimes asked for suggested reading or watching material for teens and older youth, particularly if they are not attending meeting for worship regularly. And I've sometimes handed my own teenage children one of the books below on our way to meeting — They usually end up setting it aside at some point in worship, but it's a place for them to enter. It's important to see yourself in the story, and the first two books listed here are beautiful resources for young Friends to read about their peers' experiences of our living faith.

Melinda Wenner Bradley, PYM Youth Engagement Coordinator

Spirit Rising: Young Quaker Voices

(edited by Conti, Curtis, Daniels, Lomuria, Condori, Hart, et al)

Whispers of Faith: Young Friends share their experiences of Quakerism

(Black, Klos, Reddy, Smith and Stacy, editors)

The Quaker Way

(illustrated by Signe Wilkinson -- it's a fun "cartoon" style book)

"Quaker Affirmation: A Course of Study for Young Friends" -- Curriculum created by First Friends Church in Indianapolis; downloaded materials include Teacher and Youth guides and supplemental materials. This is from an FUM Friends church, and includes Bible and theology in discussion of Quaker beliefs. <http://www.indyfriends.org/quaker-affirmation>

Baltimore YM Curricula for Teens -- Emphasis on reading and discussion sites.google.com/site/bymreligiously/curriculum/curriculum-to-share

One of my favorite New Testament resources is from a Quaker website for kids/teens called "KidsQuake" -- there is a series of lessons on the life of Jesus based on the musical "Godspell." It's for ages 11 and up, and uses powerpoint and the music from the show, which is pretty cool. <http://friendsmedia.org/index.php/kidsquake/article/an-introduction-to-the-life-of-jesus>

QuakerSpeak: (quakerspeak.com)

This is a project of Friends Journal, and I used it often in a 9th grade Quakerism class at a Friends school. They are short videos (3-7 minutes) on Quaker topics of ALL KINDS. I'll share links of some I suggest for teens, but it's worth exploring the YouTube channel for what might be of interest or timely. The voices in the videos are from a wide span of experiences and ages.

"What is a Quaker?"

"Quakers and the Inner Light" (I love this one!)

"What to Expect in Quaker Meeting for Worship"

"What Do Quakers Do in Silent Worship?"

"How Many Quakers Are There in the World?"

"How Quakerism Began"

"How Do Quakers Read the Bible?"

"Listening in Tongues"

"A Quaker Approach to Sustainability"

"Are You A Quaker?"