

# Hallmarks for Speaking about the Quaker Way

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**In preparation for outreach and welcoming visitors, we invite Friends to consider speaking about the Quaker way in a manner that is positive and welcoming, sharing with newcomers what is meaningful and special about the Quaker Way in the lives of Friends today.**

**How might your conversations with newcomers shift if you adopt the following hallmarks?**

*Use Positive Language:* Say what Quakers do believe and do “do,” rather than what Quakers don’t believe and don’t do.

*Use Very Little History:* Newcomers are usually interested first in what the Quaker way has to offer them today. History can be talked about later.

*Avoid Jargon:* Jargon, like monthly meeting and First Day School, can be confusing and can indicate that Quakers are a closed group. If needed—or used—then explain it.

*Don’t Criticize Other Religions or Other Branches of Quakerism:* There is no need to do this. Simply share what the Quaker way means is.

*Use Stories to Share Your Journey:* It isn’t necessary to speak on behalf of all Quakers everywhere, throughout time. Share from your heart!