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Dear Friends,

It is a privilege and joy to be your Association Day guest speaker for this year. Thanks for inviting me to be a part of your day!

Mary Baker Eddy states in *Science and Health*, "Spirit, God, gathers unformed thoughts into their proper channels, and unfolds these thoughts, even as He opens the petals of a holy purpose in order that the purpose may appear." S&H 506:18 Also, in Miscellaneous Writings we read, "To the material sense, everything is matter; but spiritualize human thought, and our convictions change; for spiritual sense takes in new views, in which nature becomes Spirit; and Spirit is God, and God is good. Mis. 217:30-2

As the new year unfolds we are finding new opportunities to reach for those new views and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Preparing for Association Day is an unfolding of God's purpose and is unencumbered by personal sense. Like the opening of a blossom, each petal is needed for proper unfolding. Each association member has a place in the newness prepared of God and it is a good place. Let's all join together in preparing to see how the holy purpose unfolds.

As we prepare for the day, let's read two of Mrs. Eddy's sermons; *The People's Idea of God, Its Effect on Health and Christianity* and *Christian Healing* (both found in Prose Works). Let's consider how these sermons spiritualize human thought.

Also, as we study each Weekly Bible Lesson, let's consider the stories of the people in each lesson. What obstacles did they need to overcome to reach their goals? Were the obstacles what they appeared to be or was there more to consider? Did the people fulfill their purpose?

Association Day is an opportunity to share our gratitude for increasing spiritual growth and renewal in our practice of Christian Science. It's also an occasion for pausing and give thanks for healings experienced. As the year progresses and we reach for the goal of new views, please email or postal mail me your experiences of healing and, as I can, I will include them in the day's address. If you have questions, please send them and I will try to include responses in the address as well.

Of course, you are welcome to be in touch with me. I look forward to being with you on Association Day.

Lovingly,

Sandy