

Responding Worksheet

Shaker Hymn Lyrics

'Tis the gift to be simple. 'Tis the gift to be free.
'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be.
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.

When true simplicity is gained,
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed.
To turn, turn will be our delight
'Til by turning, turning we come down right.

Explanation of words

'til=until
'tis=it is
'twill=it will
Shan't=should not

What do the lyrics communicate about the Shaker lifestyle? [Expressive intent]

The song is like the Shaker lifestyle because it is simple. Their lifestyle is very simple. When they make their chairs they don't make fancy markings they make them plain. That's okay though. Like the name of the song Simple gifts they make simple predictions. The things that make are like gifts. They feel life is a gift and being free and simple is all they need to be happy. When they settle down they will love and cherish it like in the song when it says the Valley of love and delight.