

## It Matters What We Believe

Some beliefs are like walled gardens. They encourage exclusiveness, and the feeling of being especially privileged.

*Other beliefs are expansive and lead the way into wider and deeper sympathies.*

Some beliefs are like shadows clouding children's days with fears of unknown calamities.

*Other beliefs are like sunshine, blessing children with the warmth of happiness.*

Some beliefs are divisive, separating the saved from the unsaved, friends from enemies.

*Other beliefs are bonds in a world community, where sincere differences beautify the pattern.*

Some beliefs are like blinders, shutting off the power to choose one's own direction.

*Other beliefs are like gateways opening wide vistas for exploration.*

Some beliefs weaken a person's selfhood. They blight the growth of resourcefulness.

*Other beliefs nurture self-confidence and enrich the feeling of personal worth.*

Some beliefs are rigid, like the body of death, impotent in a changing world.

*Other beliefs are pliable, like the young sapling, ever growing with the upward thrust of life.*

by Sophia Lyon Fahs