

March 17th

*"We have been planted together in the likeness of His death ... also ... resurrection."
(Rom.6.5).*

We have to acknowledge the Lord Jesus as the Head of our family life, and Church life. Before we make and plan for prayer, for Sunday ministry or personal work, we should go to the Lord and make our plans in His presence. In practice however, we go to Him about big things and not about the small things. For our ministry on Sunday we pray two or three times, but for Open Air meetings we do not pray at all. That is how men treat lightly the things of God. However for everything we must go and consult Him, whether for family life, individual life or Church life, whether for a small or great ministry. Then we will know new life flowing into us, into the family and into the Church. But remember this: death and resurrection go together.

When we are born again, we are planted or grafted into the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. The word "planting" is important. Here it means "grafting". After grafting, the trees which formerly yielded sour fruit begin to yield good, sweet and large fruit. Paul uses the same word for grafting into the Lord Jesus. Not only has the Lord Jesus forgiven us our sins, but spiritually we are baptized into His death, burial and resurrection, and by the power of His death we are able to die to our old nature.

Today's calendar Bible verse:

Let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect. James 1:4.