

in order to satisfy an inclination which it would have been easy to have overcome at first, but which, when cherished in the heart, becomes tyrannical and fatal! May God grant to the reader of these lines, and to all His children, to seek His presence day by day.

A FAITHFUL WORD.

MY DEAR M.,

I don't forget you, and often do I hope that your soul is cleaving fast to the Lord Jesus, and feeding on the rich pasture which He provides for the lambs and sheep of His flock. Perhaps the most important thing for us is to keep our first love bright and real. You will serve Him whom you love. The great motive in the heart of Paul was the love of Christ: "*He loved me,*" he said; and that which the Lord Himself pressed thrice on Peter was, "*Lovest thou me?*" Full well does the Lord know what is the mighty spring of faithfulness to Himself, and that which stands higher in His estimation than intelligence or gift is simple love to Himself. He delights in the heart that values Himself. He could say of her who had taken her place at His feet to hear His word, that she had "*chosen the better part:*" He could say of her who anointed Him for His burial, rather than lavish the cost of the ointment on the poor, "*She hath wrought a good work on me,* and wheresoever the gospel should be preached, this also that she had