

how many have held on in this good way to the present time? These questions are asked for the purpose of giving fresh stimulus to a religious exercise which cannot be neglected or half-heartedly performed without serious loss.

If the Lord be willing, I will soon address the congregation on a Sunday morning upon this important theme. But let a further word be added here which may incite the heads of families to some reflection, and thus prepare them to profit the more by what may be brought to their minds hereafter.

It is morning time. By the unfailing care of the Heavenly Father, you have been preserved through the night. He has given the sleep which has fitted you for another day's demands. He has sheltered you from storm and prevented fire from seizing upon your dwelling. He has kept sickness from you, and sore trial; or, if otherwise, he has been at hand to give support and comfort. You have been granted the privilege of looking again into the faces of loved ones. His table is spread for the supply of temporal necessities. Before you lies the day with its pleasures and cares, its temptations and uncertainties. Satan is abroad to lead young feet astray and to cause those who are older to go counter to God's will. Into what difficult situations you and yours may be unexpectedly thrust before nightfall, none can foretell. Many opportunities of usefulness will certainly be furnished—opportunities you cannot rightly employ save by being under Divine guidance. How desirable, therefore, nay, needful, that, in addition to private devotions, before there is dispersion to the several spheres for the day, the family come together to hear a message from God's Word, and to bow down before the loving Lord, not only to express gratitude for what has been received, but also to seek such a supply of grace as will ensure triumph to each soul, no matter what the day may bring.

It is inexpressibly sad that there are in our city so many homes, where the parents profess to love God, in which no such a thing as a Family Altar exists. The fathers and mothers who are bringing up their boys and girls without the