

March 24 to 31

Dresden District

No one who puts a hand on the plough and looks back is fit for God's kingdom.
(Luke 9:62 CEB)

Preventing burn-out

It's great if you can do it - if you can plough a straight furrow! It is certainly better not to think about it too much, otherwise you'll start wobbling. Once the furrow's there, you can't change it anyway. You look forward, guided by the furrow. So it's always a venture, but based on what went before. On the other hand, it's always important to plough with foresight! To perceive the limits. When is it time to turn? Where does the field come to an end? Turning at the edge of the field isn't turning back. It's what you have to do to stay on track and work the whole field.

And now that you've turned, you'll see the furrow you've just ploughed. And finally, you also need to look forward to see when you've finished, when the whole field has been ploughed. That's it! If you keep looking back, you'll

never get to the end. You just keep on seeing the freshly ploughed earth behind you. Being able to see the end is one way of preventing burn-out.

All this happens doing what's known as working for the kingdom of God. The intriguing question is who's actually pulling the plough: an ox or a 400 hp tractor? And why is all that power up front good for nothing when the little person at the back or behind the wheel is a bit clumsy? This doesn't stop the ploughing, but it definitely impacts on the results.

Christhard Rüdiger

Contact: christhard.ruediger@emk.de
Translation: Jacqueline Rohmann

I GIVE THANKS

- for every little bit of courage to put a hand on the plough and get involved when God shares out the big tasks.
- for every time we look forwards, wisely seeking the limits, in a straight line to keep an eye on the big picture.

I PRAY

- for all diligent church workers who have got stuck in the furrow, ploughing back over it again and again, getting drawn in deeper and deeper; that they may find the ability to plough a new furrow. Next to the old one.
- for all church workers who can't or don't want to be shackled to the plough any longer: that they may be enraptured once more by the immeasurable power which is what gives us the ability to work in the first place.

Dresden District

The Dresden District is one of the two districts in the East Germany Conference. It has 28 circuits stretching from Zittau into the "Erzgebirge". The superintendent is Christhard Rüdiger who is based in Chemnitz.

Contact:

Christhard Rüdiger
Superintendent
Heinrich-Beck-Str. 33 in
09912 Chemnitz

Tel.: 0371-66110867
Mail: distrikt.dresden@emk.de