“Dear Lord, I know You are the Owner of the universe, totally able to do anything. If this child will later enlarge Satan's lines, please allow him to rest; but if he will serve You, please perform a miracle! I now give up my desire to become rich. I rededicate myself to serve You my whole life, doing whatever You want me to do, and going wherever You send me. I will also dedicate this child to You, and will prepare all my other children to serve You!”

This prayer came from a desperate father, while his son, who was near death, was having surgery.

Not too long before that, Osvaldino, who was studying at the Adventist Seminary in Sao Paulo, Brazil to become a pastor, almost left God’s call due to his desire for wealth. He was considering a friend’s proposal to partner with him in purchasing a gas station, when his son Marcos became very sick!

During that meaningful prayer, in one of the hospital’s restroom, Osvaldino put his entire life in God’s hands.
No one can say that Marcos’ healing wasn’t a miracle. And this is the reason why he heard the following words from his mom, every year: “Here is your Birthday Offering, son! Please tell the Sabbath School teacher that it was your birthday and don’t forget to give that offering, as you do every year.”

The Birthday Offering became a meaningful experience of gratitude and rededication to God for this family, which raised two pastors and a pastor’s wife.

As you return your tithe and give your promise, ask God for a grateful heart that will honor Him throughout every year of life He gives you.

May we put our desires last and God first.