There are people like Yulian everywhere. Coming from Bulgaria, Yulian left his home in search of new opportunities. But distracted by addictions to cigarettes and alcohol, he wasted his time and most of his earnings. When he lost his job, his family told him to leave his home.

After 10 years, Yulian found himself in a busy corner of Nicosia, Cyprus, tirelessly shining shoes but barely being able to support himself.

One day, Filip, a Global Mission pioneer also from Bulgaria, greeted Yulian and asked if he needed help. Surprised by hearing someone speaking in his native Bulgarian, Yulian offered Filip a shoeshine, and during his service, Filip told him that Jesus loves us, no matter who we are. The mention of Jesus grabbed Yulian’s attention, making him rethink his value.

The next day, Filip returned bringing some books and again offered help. After this, Filip stopped by often and read the Bible to Yulian. Filip’s eyes filled with tears as he offered his new friend hope for a better life for Jesus. Soon Yulian gave his life to God.
Yulian had drunk and smoked for years, but through Filip's testimony, he decided to give up his addictions. His family welcomed him back home, and now Yulian tells everyone who will listen about his love for God. Filip continues his ministry as a Global mission Pioneer leading a Bulgarian-language Bible study in Nicosia. Several people have been baptized through Filip's work. This is a significant number for Cyprus, where the Adventist Church has only about 100 members and the population in Nicosia is more than one million people. Filip spends his time mingling with people, making friends, and introducing them to Jesus.

In different places, missionary offerings are maintaining Global Mission pioneers like Filip. Many members around the world—known as “Promisors”—have committed themselves before the Lord to regularly giving back to Him another percentage of their income as a missionary offering, beyond the tithe. And this is what is promised: “If men will become channels through which heaven’s blessing can flow to others, the Lord will keep the channel supplied.” Counsels on Stewardship, 36. May we put our desires last and God first.