

WEEK 18 • MAY 6, 2023

## Malawi: Making the Right Choices

**Psalm 27:10—“When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up.”**

John was a bright, young student in Malawi. As a teenager, he was chosen to study at a special school that focuses on his religion more than other subjects. The goal of his education was to learn as much about his own religion as possible so he could convert Christians to his religion. After three years of intense study, John completed his religious education.

John then enrolled in an Adventist school to learn about Christians. His goal was always to equip himself to convert Christians to his faith. He attended classes and talked about Adventist beliefs with the pastor and his other teachers, always with the intent to learn about Adventist beliefs and to discover Adventists' weaknesses.

After three years of study in the Adventist school, John was convicted that Adventists teach the truth. He told the school's principal that he wanted to give his life to God and be baptized. When John's father learned of John's decision to leave his family's religion, his father disowned him. John was comforted as he saw firsthand the difference God makes in people's lives.

Eventually John was invited to become a Global Mission pioneer and was sent into an unentered area of Malawi, his homeland. There he ministered as a pioneer, following Christ's method, and sharing his testimony with people he met.

John wanted to complete his education, so he enrolled at Malawi Adventist University, where he studied theology. He graduated with zeal to become a minister. John never gave up. He wants nothing more than to teach others the truths of the Bible and lead them to Jesus.

God could work miracles to provide schools and churches and hospitals to draw people to Christ. But He wants us to use our faith and our finances to build up the work our forefathers have started.

**While our tithe belongs to God and exclusively maintains authorized missionaries and pastors, who preach the word, and their support teams, our Promise offerings are designated to grow the missionary work of the church here and around the world.**

If you haven't already done so, ask God what percentage of your income He would have you regularly give as a Promise offering to strengthen the missionary work of the church around the world. He has challenged you to “be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you’” (Heb. 13:5 NKJV). Trust Him, obey Him, and watch as He blesses you!

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