More than one hundred years ago a group of German immigrants settled in Pozuzo, an isolated place in the Peruvian jungle. Since there was no land available in Pozuzo, Juan and Teresa Heidinger decided to move to the region of Puerto Inca, close to the Pachitea river.

It was also a remote place, accessible only by the river. Far from civilization, they would need to be self-sufficient and provide for almost all their own needs.

One day, Teresa developed serious kidney problems and the only available medical facility was the Maranatha Clinic, accessible only by boat from their farm. The American owners, Monroe and Patricia Duerksen were self-supported missionaries who had opened a clinic in a place without any Adventist presence. They volunteered to risk all with God, believing that He would provide for all their needs.

At their clinic, Teresa received proper treatment and a simple, yet powerful gift: the book “The Great Controversy”. Teresa was also invited to join the Duerksens for Sabbath services. Impacted by the book and the kindness of the missionaries, Teresa was baptized, followed by Juan, his mother, and finally their four children.
Thanks to the missionaries’ self-denying initiative, all four of the Heidenger’s children were later sent to the Peruvian Adventist University.

Today, Maritza holds a degree to teach Biology and Chemistry in the High School, and is married to a pastor. Daisy is a food engineer, who served as mayor of Puerto Inca and is now a member of the staff of Peru’s Assistant Minister of Education. Lisseth studied Psychology and married a pharmaceutical chemist, both actively serving in their local church in Los Angeles, USA. And Edward, who became a pastor, is currently the Secretary of the South America Division, in Brazil.

As you return your tithe and give your Promise, ask God what He is asking you to risk for Him today. Remember that self-denial and self-sacrifice are the fuel that ignite precious fruits for God!

May we put our desires last and God first.