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September 19, 2020

RISKING WITH GOD

More than one hundred years ago a group of German immigrants settled in Pozuzo, an isolated place in the Peruvian jungle. As there was no longer land available in Pozuzo, Juan and Teresa Heidinger decided to relocate after their marriage to the region of Puerto Inca, close to the Pachitea river. It was also a remote place, accessible only by the river, but with extensive land available. Far from civilization, they would need to be self-sufficient and provide for almost all their own needs.

After Teresa developed serious kidney problems, the only available medical facility was the Maranatha Clinic, accessible only by boat from their farm. The American owners, Monroe and Patricia Duerksen, after working for a while in Bolivia as regular Adventist missionaries, decided to leave the USA again, as self-supported missionaries, opening a clinic in a place without any Adventist presence. In faith, they volunteered to sacrifice and to risk all with God, believing that He would provide for all their needs.

In addition to the treatment in the clinic, Teresa also received the book “The Great Controversy”, followed by a warm invitation to join the Duerksens for Sabbath services. Impacted by the book and the kindness of the

missionaries, Tereza was baptized, followed by Juan, his mother, and finally the four children.

Thanks to the missionaries’ self-denying initiative, all four of the Heidinger’s children studied at the Peruvian Adventist University. Maritza holds a specialization to teach Biology and Chemistry in the High School, and is married to a pastor; Daisy, a food engineer, 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, a pastor, is currently the Secretary of the South America Division, with headquarters in Brazil.

APPEAL: Self-denial and sacrifice, are ever the fuel that ignites precious fruits for God! In what other way is God calling you to risk something for Him today? Do you believe that if you risk with Him, He will also provide for all your needs? Tithes and offerings are a practical witness of that belief, strengthening our trust in our Divine Provider!

PRAYER: Dear Lord! As we worship you, help us to trust in you more and more!