How old must you be to invite people to follow Jesus? Luka and his parents live in Georgia, a small country once part of the Soviet Union. Luka’s father is a pastor, and one day his father announced at church that he would hold some special meetings to introduce people to Jesus. He urged everyone to invite someone to the meetings. Inspired by that call, Luka knew exactly who he would invite to the meetings—his kindergarten teacher!

Luka was thrilled when he saw her enter the church the first night, after his invitation. Ms. Keti came to the meetings regularly. She told Luka and his parents that the messages were just what she needed, and at the end of the meetings, she was baptized.

Then, while visiting the church children’s class, she learned that children in Georgia had no Bibles or Sabbath School lessons to read in their local language. That made it hard to remember the stories the teacher told in Sabbath School. After a while, a special part of the missionary offering from church members around the world helped the Adventists in Georgia buy Bibles and print the children’s Sabbath School lessons in Luka’s language.
Now, Luka shares his Sabbath School lessons with his friends at school and invites them to come to church with him to learn more about God. And this was only possible because missionary offerings from all around the world were destined to the World Mission Fund and then distributed globally, part of them even reaching the country of Georgia. This efficient system of global distribution allows the church to provide for missionary needs even in places where there are no or very few converts to support God’s work.

In regions that adopted the Combined Offering Plan, 20% of every unassigned offering is designated as World Mission Fund and will support projects like this one in Georgia. As we return our tithe and Promise Offerings, may we put our desires last, and God first.