The Modern Day Waldensians
March 05, 2022

NARRATION

Have you ever realized what great things God can do when you partner with Him in His final mission? During Jesus’ earthly ministry, a group of women provided the resources for His last trip around Galilee. “The Twelve were with him, and also some women; Joanna…, Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.” (Luke 8. 1-3 - NIV)

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As a result, this phase of Jesus’ ministry was characterized by powerful teaching and a renewed sense of mission. He and His disciples left their comfort zone (their safety, food, language, and culture). They visited the Gentile regions outside the borders of Judea: Tyre, Sidon, Bethsaida, and Decapolis, going as far as Caesarea Phillipi. Outside Tyre, Jesus repeated the miracle of the multiplication of bread, feeding 4,000 men, non-Jews, presenting Himself as the Bread of Life for all nations.

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Today, some young people follow Jesus’ steps by dedicating their lives to bringing the gospel to hard-to-reach people and groups in the Middle East and other parts of the world. We refer to them as “modern-day Waldensians,” because like the Waldensians of the Middle Ages, they enroll and study in secular universities as they attempt to reach their fellow students. Their primary goal is to find opportunities to bring the love and message of Jesus to their peers.
One modern-day Waldensian wrote: “Being in a foreign land is challenging. You miss your family, your home country, and your friends. You also have to adapt to a new culture, the people, the climate, and so forth.” Yet her commitment remains firm, because according to her, “universities are amazing mission fields. You meet people your age, you easily make friends, and you have many opportunities to share about God with open-minded, inquisitive people.”

You can take part in this missionary work when you regularly and systematically worship God by returning to Him a proportion of your income as tithe and Promise (regular and systematic offerings). By regularly partnering with Him in His final mission, you keep the stream of resources flowing to support this and other Waldensian missionaries around the world.

May we put our desires last, and God first.