GENEROUS LIVING

ALL OF ME
IN RESPONSE TO ALL OF HIM

"More Blessings Than I Could Receive"

I gained a testimony of the law of tithing the summer before my senior year of high school. Finances were tight for my mother, a single parent raising two teenage boys. To help out I did odd jobs, but it had been several weeks since I had been able to find work. I became even more discouraged when I took account of my finances: $6 and some change.

Then I remembered I had neglected to pay tithe on my last job. I looked at my last pay stub: $63. A quick mental calculation told me my debt to the Lord amounted to nearly every cent I had!

I balked at giving up my last few dollars. I decided I would try to get another job, then pay tithe with the money I earned. As the week progressed, though, the prospect of finding a job became more bleak. I happened to see one of my mother's books, Faith Precedes the Miracle, by President Spencer W. Kimball, and realized I had made the wrong decision. I decided to return my tithe.

The following Wednesday I received a call from a friend. He had been working for a local farmer who needed an extra person for two days. I heartily accepted. I had been home less than a half hour from the first day when I received a call from another friend asking if I would harvest wheat for his uncle. The job would continue until school started and paid $2 an hour-—a wage unheard of in that day. I was elated. Fifteen minutes later, the phone rang again with another job offer. I was amazed and thankful, but I'd already accepted the other job and had to decline.

The next day I went to work to finish my job stacking hay. At the end of the day, the farmer asked me to continue working for him the remainder of the summer! Again, I had to decline the offer. The windows of heaven had truly been opened for me. The blessings given to me were so great that I could not receive all of them. (Lee Hill, Ensign, Apr. 1999)

Learn more about the Generous Living initiative on the Carolina Conference website, www.carolinasda.org

DECEMBER