



GENEROUS LIVING

ALL OF ME
IN RESPONSE TO ALL OF HIM

JANUARY

I've been a member of the Seventh-day Adventist church for almost 30 years. One of the Bible truths I have learned is to give a faithful tithe and offering.

Growing up in Queens, NY, we lived in a two-family house in the suburbs of Bayside. Our neighbors were my uncle and aunt. We enjoyed many happy times and celebrations together with our next door relatives.

Tante Ilse was my favorite aunt—she seemed to have the knack of knowing what little girls liked and her gifts were always special, especially the one gift I received for Christmas one year. All the beautifully wrapped packages were under the tree in our living room and out of one of the gifts came a sweet note of music—just one sound. We had no idea what it was! With great anticipation, we finally had permission to open our presents. My sister and I each received from my aunt a beautiful musical jewelry box in the shape of a bird cage with a little canary on a golden perch. When I wound the key on the box, the canary would swing back and forth on its perch and music would play. The canary was in a gilded cage so you couldn't touch the little bird with your fingers. Underneath the cage was a white jewelry box trimmed

with gold design containing two drawers with little handles lined inside with light blue velvet. With time and overuse, we no longer have the boxes; but, the gift remains special to me. Why? The fact that it was so beautiful and the little canary was the neatest thing. Using my imagination that little bird in its gilded cage came alive.

Being part of God's church, I realize the importance of giving tithes and offerings, and the offering part is our gift to God. When I give my offering to God, am I really being mindful of it being a gift to Him? Is my gift reflective of my absolute best, and am I trying to please God with my offering just as my aunt pleased me with her gift?

None of us can ever out give God, of course; but when we truly give with our heart, God sees it and that is what counts. May our offering become like that special music box, a thoughtful, heartfelt gift to God.

ALL OF ME IN RESPONSE TO ALL OF HIM!

— Rosemarie Clardy
Member of Mt.

*Pisgah Academy
SDA Church*



TELL YOUR STORY

You are part of the Carolina Conference Generous Living Team and we want to hear from you. If you have a testimony where God has been especially faithful to you or your family, please share it with us at rroberts@carolinasda.org or write to us at:

Generous Living Team
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Charlotte, NC 28215-0043

Your testimony could be crucial in someone's life through our videos, posters, offertory readings or bulletin inserts.

Thank you for your continuous prayers.

“For I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.” Jeremiah 29:11

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