



GENEROUS LIVING

ALL OF ME
IN RESPONSE TO ALL OF HIM

Seven years and three children after Lenna Lee and I were married, our church decided it was time to build a new church building. It is well known that young couples seldom have extra funds lying around for philanthropic projects. We were no exception. However, we wanted to do our part to contribute to the new building.

After much prayer we made a covenant with God and made a three-year pledge to help fund the building. We claimed the promise in Philippians 4:19 that God would supply all our needs. We noted that the promise did not say “maybe.” Not long after this I applied for work at Douglas Aircraft Company. In filling out the form, I was to sign a statement saying that I would work any day or hour assigned. I could not sign it and honor God’s Sabbath. I left it blank.

The man in charge told me that I needed to sign the statement I had left blank. When I told him I couldn’t because of God’s Sabbath, he became angry. After much discussion, I told him I was sorry I had wasted his time and that he had wasted my time. Suddenly his

attitude changed, and he asked me to sit in the waiting room.

A short time later I was called in and asked to approve my application form. Stapled over the statement about working any day was another typed statement that read, “Due to religious convictions, this employee will not be required to work from Friday sundown until Saturday sundown.” I signed on to work at Douglas. The increase in salary was just enough to keep up with our church pledge and return the extra tithe.

I had worked only a few months when Douglas lost a major contract and began laying off workers.

Every time the pink slips arrived, I expected to be laid off, but each time someone would either quit or move to another department. I continued to work, even with some overtime, for more than three years. When my pink slip finally came, only two of us were left—my boss and myself. By that time we had finished paying our church pledge, I had finished my teaching degree, and I was able to start teaching at Tulsa Junior Academy.

— Robert L.
Davidson, adapted
from *Over & Over*
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