

WEEK 51 • DECEMBER 23, 2023

## Burundi: Best Friends

Psalm 122:1-2—“I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go into the house of the Lord.” Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!”

Larissa, eight, and Rosette, seven, are best friends. They live in the country of Burundi in eastern Africa.

Larissa and her family are Adventists. One day while the girls were playing together, Larissa’s mother called her daughter home for family worship. “Come with me!” Larissa invited Rosette. “We’re having family worship.” Rosette didn’t know what family worship was, but she went anyway. Larissa’s family sang a song about Jesus, then Mother read a Bible story, and then they all prayed.

“I like family worship,” Rosette said. “May I come again?”

“Of course you can!” Larissa said. “Would you like to come with me to Sabbath School on Saturday?” On Sabbath Rosette and Larissa walked to church together. Rosette liked singing songs about Jesus and hearing Bible stories. That evening Rosette told her parents about Larissa’s Sabbath School. Her parents were glad that she was learning about God.

Rosette rarely misses Sabbath School. She invites her parents to go to Sabbath School with her. Her father doesn’t go, but Mother goes when she doesn’t have a class on Sabbath.

Rosette was excited. “I’m so glad you’re coming, Mama!”

Rosette wanted her family to pray together like Larissa’s family does. In time Mother let Rosette lead in family worship. Then one day Mother had a surprise for Rosette. She had decided to join the church.

Rosette’s father doesn’t attend church with the family, but Rosette knows that if she prays for him and is an obedient and kind daughter, her father may one day want to know about Jesus.

Sharing God with others is an important part of worshiping God. Children can do it, and so can adults. It is our privilege to pray to God about all our concerns. And it is also our privilege to give God our tithes and systematic offerings, called Promise, every time we earn or are given some money. When we give God our tithes and Promise offerings, God promises us that He will supply our needs according to His richness, not our poverty (Phil. 4:19). That way we can focus on giving to God so that adults and children around the world can learn about Jesus. This week let’s focus on sharing our offerings with Jesus and our faith in God with a friend.

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