



United We Are Strong

September 5, 2020

AUDIO

VÍDEO

sc. **01**

While playing tennis with a friend, Ricardo came across the tithing subject. His friend, who attended an evangelical church, told how things were done in his church:

Motion graphics animation.

sc. **02**

Friend: Well, in my church, all money collected is retained and administrated locally.

Ricardo: Oh, really?

Friend: Yes! Isn't it how you do it in your church?

Ricardo: No... we actually use the Storehouse system?

Friend: Storehouse system? What you mean?

Ricardo: Well, resembling the Biblical Storehouse principle, the Adventist Church brings most of the funds collected by each local church to a common "bucket" and then distributes them equitably, supporting all regional and global financial necessities.

Friend: Oh, wow! Sounds interesting!

Ricardo: Yeah! Then, all tithes are used exclusively to support authorized missionaries while offerings are mainly used to support the local church, other regional and global evangelistic projects and ministries. And if we identify ourselves on the envelope, we even receive receipts from what is given.

Friend: So, there's basically an auditing system...

Ricardo: Exactly! And we may have access to all financial information.

Motion graphics animation.

AUDIO

VÍDEO

sc. 03

Friend: But do you trust this system?
Ricardo: I trust God! I know the system is managed by fallible human beings trying to do their best, like me, but no incidental human failure will affect my practice, because I actually give to God, as an act of worship. And He is in full control of His own business, you know?

Motion graphics animation.

sc. 04

Ricardo was right. With the representative system adopted by the Adventist Church, no individual or interest group is the owner or controls all the funds. Local church and regional representatives elect regional and world leaders for limited terms, and all pastors and leaders are paid on the basis of a common salary scale.

Motion graphics animation.

sc. 05

21 million members contribute to the same "pot" with tithes and Promise (regular/systematic offerings), and the church is now present in 212 out of the 235 countries and areas recognized by the United Nations. United, they are stronger, are able to do more, and go farther!

Motion graphics animation.

sc. 06

As you return your tithe and give your Promise, pray for those who haven't received the message of salvation, so that, through this act of worship they can be reached.

Text animation.

sc. 07

May we put our desires last and God first.

Text animation.