

Josiah and Denise put God First

November 14, 2021

NARRATION

Josiah and Denise decided to put God first despite their fear and uncertainty about the future. That's when their transformation began. What can we learn from their story today that will help us put God first in our own lives?

Josiah and Denise were highly successful in business. They decided to participate in God's work by investing their savings in building a Seventh-day Adventist church. That's when things started to go wrong.

Business started to drop off, leaving them with basically no options to move forward. But despite the circumstances and the risk of losing everything, the couple put God first and continued to invest in the church building. Their friends called them crazy, but they were convicted of their decision.

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We tend to believe that things will go well when we put God first, and we will be shielded from adversity. But in reality, putting God first is acknowledging that God is molding our lives for the better through good and bad times. Understanding that is vital to allowing the Holy Spirit to work in us and keep us faithful in times of adversity and uncertainty.

Josiah and Denise often visited the construction site and spent hours there watching the people work. Even with all their fears and concerns, they would feel an inexplicable peace that reassured them that they were doing the right thing no matter the consequences.

The situation was getting more complicated every day. They were in an unsustainable position. The bank had set a date to repossess their car and home, leaving them with nowhere to go, and no way to get there. How far would God allow this to continue?

Three days before the repossessions were set to happen, God stepped in. Josiah was awarded a large contract, providing them with the resources they would need to move on.

GRAPHICS AND CLIPS

Images related to the text and animation.

NARRATION

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The church building is now complete, and people worship God there every week. Josiah and Denise's business is booming again, and their financial concerns are in the past. They continue to sponsor and support other projects as God leads.

Ellen White wrote about this: "What if some become poor in investing their means in the work? Christ for your sakes became poor; but you are securing for yourselves eternal riches, a treasure in heaven that faileth not.

Your means is far safer there than if deposited in the bank, or invested in houses and lands. It is laid up in bags that are not old. No thief can approach it, no fire consumes it..." (Counsels on Stewardship, page 41).

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Josiah and Denise put God first. Their faith inspires us today. Jesus gave up everything to redeem us, and His love compels us to put His kingdom first in our own lives. As we return the tithe and our 'Promise offering, we are challenged to put God first.

GRAPHICS AND CLIPS

Images related to the text and animation.

Text animation