



Dear heavenly Father, we worship You this morning with our tithe and offerings. We pray for the courage to put You first in our lives. In the name of Jesus, amen.

OCTOBER 31, 2021

Sarah put God First

Sarah decided to put God first in his life. What can we learn from her story today that will help us put God first in our own lives?

When her husband left her, Sarah knew she had to find a way to support herself. But she didn't know where to look for a job. She prayed for direction, and God impressed her to share His Word with the people living around her. India is not a Christian country, so this task was difficult.

Sarah began visiting her neighbours in their homes. "I prayed for the sick, and they got well," she said. "I prayed for those who had evil spirits, and the spirits went away. I prayed for those who couldn't have children, and they were able to start a family."

Not having a source of income was a tremendous sacrifice. But how could she abandon people who needed God so much? She put God first and hoped God would provide what she needed, even if it took a while.

Some people were happy for Sarah to visit them, but others didn't like someone coming to their home. One day, Sarah visited a family who was worshipping their god. They demanded that she join their worship, but she refused. Angry, a young

woman plunged Sarah's hand into a pot of boiling oil.

"I prayed," says Sarah, "and when I removed my hand from the oil, it wasn't burned at all."

The next day, the father of the young woman called Sarah to apologise. He told her that he had punished his daughter and asked Sarah to pray for his family. Sarah was happy to uplift this family in prayer.

"Now they are changed," Sarah says. "They have accepted God, and they worship with us in our church." There were five families who witnessed Sarah escape serious injury that day. They were amazed, and they too have requested her prayers.

Today Sarah works as a mission pioneer supported by the offerings given by Seventh-day Adventists from all around the world. Her ministry is introducing many people to Jesus and His saving grace.

Sarah put God first in her most difficult moments. Her courage 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 the deacons collect the tithe and offerings, we are challenged to put God first.