

It was back in 1998, my last semester at Solusi University in Zimbabwe, when one Sabbath morning during church service I observed with amazement the girl sitting in front of me—a fellow student—write a big check for tithe. Her name was Charity Jambaya, and the church service had come to the time for tithes and offerings. The elder at the pulpit called for the deacons to stand for prayer, and just before the plate went around, the girl sitting in front of me took out her POSB (post office savings bank) check book and started writing an amount that shocked me, and at the same time challenged me. As I glanced over, she wrote \$50 for tithe and about \$10 or more for offering. “Fifty dollars is a lot for a student,” I thought to myself. I could imagine what I could do with \$50. But another thought came to my mind, “If this young girl could give that much for tithe, then there must be something she believes that works.” I made a decision that very moment to try it myself.

I had heard many appeals and sermons from the book of Malachi, chapter three, about the blessings that come with returning God's 10 percent of your increase. The following Sabbath I put God to the test and returned God's tithe of \$10 and an offering on top. I could not wait to see what the Lord would do. “Will this really work?” I asked myself. I went back to the dorm, excited that for the first time ever, at the age of 23, I had returned God's tithe.

The following day, Sunday afternoon, I was passing in front of the female students' dorm and surprisingly met my uncle, who had never visited me at college. He was not visiting me, but a new girlfriend of his. When he saw me, he told me why he was there, but before he left me, he put his hand in his pocket, pulled out a \$100 dol-

lar note and handed it to me. My jaw dropped. He said, “That's for you ... enjoy it.”

Wow! My mind raced back to the \$10 tithe that I returned the previous day on Sabbath, and I could not believe how quickly the Lord had opened the windows of heaven and blessed me

return my money, I will give it back to you, because I have a lot of money and you need this \$50 more than I need it. Enjoy it, my friend.” Apparently he was a foreign student in Zimbabwe and his elder sister worked at the Angolan embassy. They had a lot of money in Zimbabwean standards, and he found me needing that \$50 more than he did.

It was another amazing outpouring of God's blessings upon me for having tried and tested Him by returning God's tithe. This was another \$50 increase I was not expecting. I immediately went back to my room and removed \$5 for tithe and \$5 for offering. In a matter of two weeks, God had blessed me with \$150 after my first tithe of \$10. From those two blessings, I determined to always be faithful with God's tithe and offering.

God's Word is true: “Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, If I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground, neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts” Malachi 3:8-10.

I am living proof that God means what He says and He says what He means.

Be blessed,
Trust Paunganwa,
Solusi University Alumni,
class of 1998



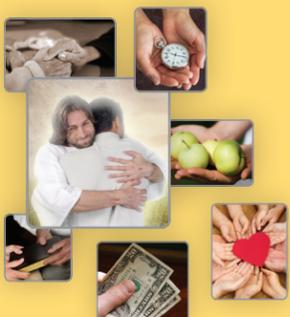
PAUSE IS ALWAYS FAITHFUL

with a \$100 note—a 10 times increase from the \$10 I returned as tithe.

Surely the Word of God is true.

I made a vow with myself that I will always return a tenth of my increase. I subtracted the \$10 from the \$100 I got from my uncle and \$5 for offering for the next Sabbath.

At the same time, I owed a friend of mine \$50 that I had borrowed a month earlier. I visited my friend, Muno-dawafa, in his room and thanked him for lending me \$50, and handed him back what I owed him. He paused, looked me in the eye and said, “Trust, of all the people who borrowed money from me at this college, you are the first one to return it. Because of your faithfulness to



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