

**March 13, 2021**

**Adventist World Radio**

The field trip had ended. At the bus stop, many parents were already waiting to pick up their children. Others arrived a few seconds later. One by one, the parents hugged their children and left.

However, one child still waited for his parents. The bus driver sat next to the boy on a bench and waited with him. Tears were rolling down the boy's face as he looked up at the driver. He needed no words to explain. He felt abandoned.

Then he heard the voice of his auntie. He ran to her and grabbed her by her legs. His tears turned to joy. The pain of abandonment changed to celebration.

We as Christians may sometimes feel alone and abandoned by God. But this is never the case. The Bible reminds us: "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me." Psalms 23:4

Imagine if we as Christians can feel alone and abandoned at times, how must others feel who don't know Christ?

The offering that we give today brings joy and hope to those who feel lost and abandoned. They are like that young boy. The message of hope is like the aunt, ready to bring peace and hope to those who have believed they were all alone.

Today, let us bring a message of joy to others by opening our hearts and giving to advance the spread of the Gospel.