## The Lord Had Other Plans for Us

used to leave the house at 8:00 a.m. and return at midnight after working all day and going to class at night. During the little time my husband, Daniel, and I had together, we argued. Things were bad. We were on the verge of separating.

One Sunday evening after an argument, Daniel said, "Maybe we should get closer to God." The next day, while Daniel was home watching our son, missionaries knocked on our door.

When the missionaries started visiting us, I disagreed with everything they taught. But after a few discussions, we began to feel something. We didn't know what it was, but we described it as "magical," a feeling of peace and harmony. It would linger even after the missionaries left. We realized that we needed that feeling more often in our home.

Inspired by the missionaries' message about the importance of family, Daniel and I came closer together in our marriage. I had hoped that going to school would lead to a better position at my work. But we decided to focus on our family, spend more time together, and have more children. I quit school, quit my job, and went to work as Daniel's secretary at his pest control business.

Less than three months after the missionaries' first visit, we were baptized and confirmed. Our life changed dramatically. We began living the law of tithing. We began praying at home and at work with Daniel's employees. We began serving in the Church. Daniel's business grew, and he needed to hire more workers.

A year after our baptism, we went to the temple to be sealed. A few days after our sealing, I found out I was expecting.



Sundays aren't easy for us. Daniel leaves early for high council meetings. I have to prepare our three children for church by myself. But we are able to share a lot of time together throughout the week. So even if we are apart at times on Sunday as we serve the Lord, we know that we are blessed.

We have gained a testimony that when we do our part, the Lord can help us, and blessings come. We have received a lot more than we had ever hoped for from our own plans. The Lord had better things in mind for us. ■
Claudia Zepeda, Coquimbo Region, Chile

