



HOW TO BELIEVE GOD FOR A HOUSE:

Bonus Teaching with *Our Personal Journey*
Pastors George and Terri Pearsons

"Every wise woman buildeth her house: and every wise husband lets her doeth it."
—Proverbs 14:1 (Pastor George Translation)

My wife is an amazing visionary and multi-tasker. She can run project circles around me. And she sure knows every detail! Her recall ability is absolutely astounding. I can give you a headline or two, but hands down—Terri Copeland Pearsons is definitely the "Detail Queen."

But even more than that, she is a woman of God and a woman of faith. All throughout our wonderful married life, she has been an inspiration to me. Because of her heritage, she taught me how to live by faith and give God's Word first place.

That is exactly why I asked her to join me with this special bonus teaching. We needed to have Terri's "take" on what we did. I wanted you to know—in intimate detail—"Our Personal Journey" of believing God for our homes.

What you are about to read is Terri's account of our walk of faith. She masterfully takes us behind the scenes and shares intimate details that have never been shared publicly. I appreciate the way she laid this out, house by house. There were so many details that I had forgotten when I first read this.

I know this will inspire you as it did me—and I was there!

Read it prayerfully. I believe as you do, revelation for your home will come.

Father, I pray for the ones reading this right now. Open the eyes of their understanding and reveal Your personal plan for their home. Thank You for helping them and encouraging their faith, in Jesus' Name."

Now, let your journey begin as Terri shares ours.

A. Foundation Scripture for Success in Life—John 4:23: “A time will come, however, indeed it is already here, when the true (genuine) worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth (reality); for the Father is seeking just such people as these as His worshipers” (*The Amplified Bible*).

1. First, note that Jesus said, “Thy word is truth” in John 17:17. *The Amplified Bible* defines *truth* as “reality.”
 - a. When you seek the Word as your reality, it will become real for you. It will actually become what it says it already is. The Word still becomes natural things just like it did in Genesis 1. It is already real in the spirit realm, but it will become real in all aspects of your life.
 - b. Those who truly worship the Father are yielding to His Word in their lives.
 - c. The Word of God will change your life step by step until you look like Jesus.
2. Second, note the phrase “in spirit.” It is the Spirit who leads us in the Word of God, helping us to understand it and how to apply it to our lives. He is the One who shows us how to live by it.
3. John 16:13-15 says, “But when He, the Spirit of Truth (the Truth-giving Spirit) comes, He will guide you into all the Truth (the whole, full Truth). For He will not speak His own message [on His own authority]; but He will tell whatever He hears [from the Father; He will give the message that has been given to Him], and He will announce and declare to you the things that are to come [that will happen in the future]. He will honor and glorify Me, because He will take of (receive, draw upon) what is Mine and will reveal (declare, disclose, transmit) it to you. Everything that the Father has is Mine. That is what I meant when I said that He [the Spirit] will take the things that are Mine and will reveal (declare, disclose, transmit) it to you” (*AMP*).
4. The Holy Spirit will guide you into all truth. He will point you to the Word, then help you walk out the Word in your life.
5. Give the Word of God first place, making it final authority.
6. I wasn't particularly aware of the verse in John 4, but in retrospect I can see that throughout our lives it was when we were worshiping God in spirit and in truth that our lives increased.
7. *Increase* is a good word to describe what happens when you walk with God by putting His Word first in your life *and* insist on being led by the Spirit.
 - a. The word *increase* itself indicates a process. You don't go from beginning to end with no middle. Jesus gave us the kingdom process in Mark 4:28: “First the blade, then the ear, *after* that the full corn in the ear.”
 - b. 3 John 2 says, “Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.”
 - c. The ways of God always include prospering and increasing in quality and in quantity.

- d. You grow, or develop, in the Word. Paul used the phrase, “skillful in the Word of righteousness.” Skill indicates maturing. It means being able to go to the Word of God and take up the Word the Holy Spirit quickens to you as a weapon (Ephesians 6:17).
 - e. Romans 8:14 says that those who “are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.” Not just children. Not all children. But sons. The Greek word here indicates a maturity. This is talking about being sons, not just children.
 - f. When you are led by the Holy Spirit there is a natural process of maturing.
 - g. You are led by the Spirit as you mature. As you mature, you are led more and more by the Spirit.
8. I want to share how this process has worked in our lives. It was in preparing for this broadcast that I realized this is what’s been happening over the course of our 36 years of marriage—and is still happening!
 9. This isn’t only about believing for the house we are currently in, but there have been four other houses. Our going from the first to the fourth house is a good picture of what walking with the Lord looks like—in every area of life, not just in regard to houses.

B. Our First Home

1. Our faith for a house started when we got married.
2. We sought to rent for our first house, with not much vision beyond that.
3. We looked as far away as an hour’s drive to the office.
4. I am sure we prayed and asked the Lord for His help, but it wasn’t that significant of a faith effort that I remember. It was the blessing of the tither at work for us.
 - a. We had committed to tithe. We had dedicated our lives to the Lord with all our hearts, but we weren’t focused in faith for anything more than a place to live. I don’t recall even asking the Lord for specifics for this house.
 - b. We were seeking the Kingdom and God’s will for our lives and that focus took all the faith we had.
 - c. We had been developing in being led by the Spirit as a couple since our relationship started. We didn’t know a lot about going to the Word of God for a house or about seeking to be led *on purpose*.
 - d. The blessing of being a tither was at work for us, even though we didn’t know to make specific requests.

“THE BLESSING OF BEING A TITHER WAS AT WORK FOR US

even though we didn't know to make specific requests.”

5. We were seeking the Kingdom and He was faithful to His Word that **He** would add “things” to us (Matthew 6:33), and He did it. We found a rent house that was brand new.
 - a. The landlords had built it for her parents, who didn't want it, so they decided to rent it. They were wonderful landlords. It was really cute.
 - b. It was only seven minutes from the office, which was wonderful. I was working in the mailroom and George was working in the art department.
 - c. The house was 1400 square feet, maybe, including the garage. That's a fairly small house, but we rolled around in it, like a marble in a jar.
 - i. All we had was a kitchen table and chairs, a mattress, a bookshelf my cousin had made, a piano my grandmother gave us, and a very old chair.
 - ii. Our clothes were in cardboard boxes when we got married. Praise God, someone gave us a halfway refurbished chest of drawers almost immediately after we were married. (It stayed halfway finished the rest of the time we owned it!)
6. It was at this point that we truly began going to the Word on purpose, not for a house, but for furniture. We prayed the prayer of agreement according to Matthew 18:18-19.
 - a. We were seeking the Kingdom. We knew we needed to put action to our faith and we followed the leading of the Spirit.
 - b. We marked off space on the floor with masking tape for a couch. We would walk around that space like a couch was there, thanking the Lord for our furniture.
 - c. The Lord helped me and I found a set of three tall baskets for \$25 that I used as end tables.
 - d. I would pray and ask the Lord to show me how to arrange the living room to look fuller, in spite of having hardly any furniture, and He did.
 - e. It took a little while, but eventually someone gave us a used couch—it was not my personal taste, but we were really grateful to have something to sit on. After nearly a year we bought our first new couch, and things were starting to look better.
7. We had been married two years and along came baby number one, Jeremy. By the time he was a year and a half old, we had outgrown that house—both inside and out. It was more than the fact that there was little room for us. The Word was growing in us. Without us really thinking about it, or on purpose by faith reaching for a bigger house, the Word in us was producing one for us. The vision it was producing in us was too big for that house anymore.

8. We were seeking the Kingdom and putting the Word first place in our lives. How was the Word first place?
 - a. The preaching of the Word was playing in our home all the time. We were in conferences and in church and of course, we read our Bibles.
 - b. We were listening to, speaking and applying the Word we heard.
 - c. The Word was an integral part of our lives.
9. The same process that brought us to the first house set us up for the second.

C. The Second House

1. Once again, I would say it was the blessing of being a tither that took over for us.
2. Matthew 6:33 says, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."
3. We were seeking the Kingdom. Our lives were about seeking Kingdom realities. Being tithers was doing things for us that we didn't even know to ask for. We hadn't taken any action on looking for a house, but we knew it was time to move. Everything changed very quickly.
4. Our grandparents bought a house. Granddad could see the ministry moving north of Fort Worth and wanted to move that direction with it. After they bought it, however, my grandmother wouldn't budge out of her home. So, he wanted us to have the new house.
 - a. It all happened in less than a week. I had only seen the house once. He called and asked us to take it. It was a nice brick home, and double the square footage of our current house.
 - b. Granddad had paid cash for a sizable portion. He asked that we pay him back directly for that portion and then to assume the loan.
 - c. I know for a fact that he didn't ask us to pay back the full portion of what he had paid, so we got a good Granddad deal. That was the blessing of the Lord for a good start.
 - d. However, we had to make double payments—one to the loan company and one to him. That lasted for several years.
5. Things were tight, but the Lord helped us. In the natural, we wouldn't have been able to take a vacation, but more than once someone who received free Hawaiian vacations as a trade in business would give us one of those trips. So we weren't suffering—except that we couldn't afford to do anything inside the house. In that way, I was suffering! There are only a few colors that I run from in decorating: orange, rust and brown. This house had rust carpet; orange countertops; and orange, rust and silver wallpaper. I don't ever recall really asking the Lord for help in that area. We just tolerated it (which was help from the Lord in itself).
6. After we paid Granddad back, we were able to start saving for changes in the house. The Lord blessed us, and a little extra came in here and there.

7. When it came to home improvements, I didn't see us with money. I had a mental and spiritual block about believing God.
 - a. Eventually, we had enough cash to change a few things that really helped, like carpet and paint in a few rooms. We had been in the house for six years. I remember because when Aubrey was born, I was giving last-minute instructions to the painter from my hospital bed!
 - b. About six years later, I found myself really wanting to deal with those orange countertops. The Word had continued to develop a sense of purpose inside me that I wasn't even conscious of. We were busy with the Kingdom in lots of other ways, growing in faith and growing in God. So when the desire rose in me to change my surroundings, I was very much on purpose this time to ask and then believe I received.
8. We were always giving and receiving. Our giving was increasing. We gave that couch the Lord had blessed us with and for some time used lawn furniture in the living room. We cleaned out the kitchen cabinets to help someone else. We gave into ministries and continued sowing into the Kingdom. God was faithful. He always replaced those things with better than what we had. We were living for the Kingdom. Whether it was working or raising our children, we were endeavoring to be led by the Spirit. God always provided for us and prospered us.
9. We were not pastoring at the time, but we were active in church. I was teaching a new-members class when a lady I had never met before came up to me and said, "The Lord has told me to get involved with you on whatever project you are working on." I told her, "My house." She was fine with that and wrote a check to me for several thousand dollars. There was my new flooring and countertops.
10. The Word continued to grow in us over the next six years. Our vision was growing from the inside out and it began to reach for the next place we were to live.
 - a. This second house was the kind of house some people live in for their entire lives, but the Word was increasing in us and it was producing an increased vision that just had to get out.
 - b. We didn't know exactly what to do except to put action to our faith. We got clear direction and an impression in our spirits to pack up as much of the house as we could. So we did, and for quite some time we lived with stacked boxes and the smell of cardboard; but it was a step that moved us to the next house.

D. The Third House

1. By now we had learned a lot about being on purpose with our faith. We had developed in faith for healing, love, our children, and our role in the ministry. You've heard my dad, Kenneth Copeland, tell about us starting the TV and publications departments, which we did. But by this time the Lord had taken

George from art director, to CEO of KCM, to pastor of the church there on ministry property.

2. We had been pastoring EMIC for about five years when this desire to move had grown in us. Again, this was a result of the Word producing vision and increase in us.

- a. It's the nature of the Word to do that.
- b. The Lord told me, *Did you know you have to believe against the Word for it not to produce in your life?* If you believe you are not supposed to increase in a certain area you can shut down what the Word will automatically do for you.
- c. If you will however, on purpose, focus and set your faith to allow the Word to produce for you in a certain area, it will expedite the results. We were growing in this.

“IF YOU WILL, HOWEVER,

ON PURPOSE,
focus
AND
SET YOUR FAITH

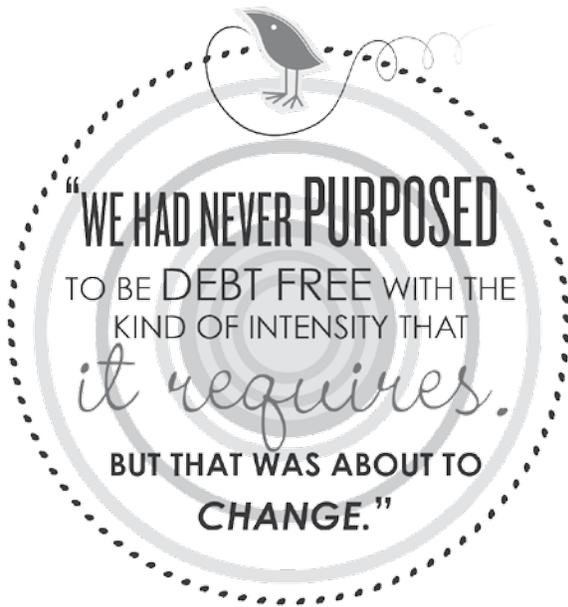
to allow the Word to produce for you in a certain area, it will **EXPEDITE THE RESULTS.**”

3. God is faithful to His Word. God had to move us to get us in position for what He had for us.
4. Three years before, the Lord had let us know that we were to give our house to another family—debt free. We were not debt free at the time, so we began working to pay off the house.
 - a. The house was our seed. In the spirit it was sown the moment we determined to give it.
 - b. We did a little research and found a few ways to pay the mortgage down. We added to our payments and the Lord helped us.
 - c. We knew it would be good to be debt free, but if the Lord hadn't told us to give the house without debt, I don't think we would have pressed into debt freedom the way we did.
 - d. Even with our best efforts, we still had a ways to go to completely pay the house off.
5. We received a call from a minister friend who said he had a word from the Lord for our congregation. We fully trusted him and said he could come right away. That Wednesday evening, the word he preached was about how God will bless those who honor Him, His Word and His servants. He spoke of sowing and reaping and then, to our surprise, he received an offering for us for a new house! We hadn't told anyone about wanting to move, other than normal conversation with friends and family. It was a significant offering. The amount exceeded what would normally be expected from a congregation that size.

6. Of course, we immediately used the money to pay off the remainder of the loan. It took 17 years to pay off a 30-year mortgage. Glory to God, the house was paid for! That was a little over half the time it would have taken if we hadn't taken action. Thankfully, we had a little of the offering left over to help us get into the next house.
7. Yet, there was a mental and spiritual block in us for the next house, as we couldn't see ourselves living beyond our current part of town (and standard of living). The Lord had to help us.
8. As soon as the house was paid off, we gave it to the family the Lord had told us to three years before. The problem was, we had no place to go. So, to be honorable, since we had given the house, we paid rent to the new owners until we could find a house.
9. That was another place to use our faith—finding a house.
 - a. The power of increase was strong in me, yet I didn't really know what it looked like. The Lord knew we needed to “come up.” Just like He took Abraham outside and showed him the stars, He took us somewhere to help us begin to see what His blessing could look like for us.
 - b. We were invited to some friends' house for a Christmas party. They had just moved to town, so we had not yet seen their house. They lived quite a distance from us. Their house was beautiful, with quality and class. The neighborhood was grand and uplifting—a feast for your eyes.
 - c. George stood on the sidewalk, looked around the neighborhood and said, “This is too rich for my blood.” But the seed of faith in the Word had been planted, and it grew very quickly.
10. The Word was producing something bigger on the inside than we could see on the outside. We were being conformed to the Word.
 - a. God was obligated to do what the Word was producing in us. God wanted to bless us.
 - b. The Word in you will demand better. The Word brings increase.
 - c. The Word produced a massive harvest in our lives.
11. Obviously, our heads had no idea what to look for—and on top of that, we didn't know where to look for it. Our thinking was limited, but the Lord was helping us to come up to the level the Word had brought our spirits.
 - a. I was following the witness of the Spirit. We looked at dozens of houses. It was all part of the process of the Lord bringing us to what He had for us.
 - b. After a couple of months of looking, the realtor said, “You have looked at every house on the market in this area. You are going to have to go outside this radius.” I was apprehensive about that, and couldn't really “see” it.

12. The same minister friend called us again and said, "I was praying and it seems to me that you are not looking out far enough for your house. It's farther away." That's when freedom dropped into my spirit and I could see us moving outside our comfort zone, living somewhere beyond where I had been thinking.
13. We only looked at a few houses before the realtor took us to the most beautiful house I had ever been in. Every detail was impressive: crown moldings, woodwork, tile, appliances. The yard, the neighborhood, even the gas stations in the area were pretty. Remember the lady who gave me several thousand dollars some six years before? She and her husband were with us. After looking at that house for an hour, we danced on the front porch. This was it. Faith friends are a true blessing of the Lord.
14. We looked down the street just a few houses, and there was the house we had visited for a Christmas party only a few months before. There was the sidewalk where George had told the Lord that this neighborhood was "too rich for his blood." The goodness of the Lord had helped us again. He was faithful to His Word.
15. So we bought the house. That was miraculous. We had given our house, so we had no income from that, but we did have some left from the special offering that had been received for us. With some fancy footwork with the mortgage company, we were able to borrow the money.
16. Yes, we went from debt free back to debt owed. We wanted to be debt free, and thought it was a good idea to be debt free, but didn't fully understand that we *needed* to be debt free. We couldn't comprehend that.
17. Dad had been preaching about God's provision for debt freedom, but not as intensely as he is now. He was very kind and supportive, and told us from the very start that we needed to believe to get out of debt as soon as we could. We'd had some success in that area already, so we were ready for that challenge.
18. What we had faith for, the Lord gave us.
 - a. We had faith for the ability to not only make the payments but to maintain the house. And that was a lot, financially. The yard itself was labor-intensive.
 - b. I determined, because the Lord was putting it in us, that we were not going to let one thing wait that needed attention. And sure enough, what we purposed our faith for, the Lord provided. We never slacked in any area of that house.
 - c. We had faith for furniture, and that was a good thing. A neighbor came to greet us after a couple of weeks and said, "Oh, your furniture hasn't arrived yet?" I told her it was coming. We were back to rolling around in the house like a marble in a jar. We believed God and we were sowing seed. We had given away nearly all the furniture we owned, and it was nice furniture.

19. Now this was not God's best. How could being thousands of dollars in debt be His best? Not by far.



a. Praise God for Psalm 103:11 that says His mercy is toward those who fear Him. I asked the Lord, "What does that really mean?" He said, *If you are looking to honor the Lord, even your mistakes will work out.*

b. Some may think, *Well, I'll just go ahead and do it and deal with it later. The Lord will fix it.* No. That's not the fear of the Lord. That does not honor His Word. If you take that approach you will have more to overcome than debt. It will set you back in so many ways and show up all across your life. Some may never recover because it is self-deception.

20. So, here we were, borrowers again and servants to the lenders. We were subject to people we did not know. Again, we wanted to be debt free, but we didn't see that we *needed* to be debt free.

21. Romans 13:8 says, "Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law." This wasn't a revelation to us yet, but God was faithful to bring us to that point. We had never purposed to be debt free with the kind of intensity that it requires. But that was about to change.

22. Not long after we had moved into our house, change began in George during a 30 Days of Glory meeting. These are his comments:

- a. Sept. 12, 1998, Brother Copeland spent an entire service preaching about staying out of debt and suddenly my eyes were opened.
- b. "What one does today for the sake of tomorrow is called an investment. What one does to enjoy today at the expense of tomorrow is called debt." —Kenneth Copeland
- c. "Borrowing is a replacement covenant—it is going to someone else when you should have gone to God." —Kenneth Copeland
- d. I realized borrowing had become a serious breach of my covenant with God.
- e. Kenneth asked me to do a week of broadcasts with him about being debt free. On one of the broadcasts, Kenneth looked at me and asked, "You got out of debt and then you got back into debt. Why did you do that?" It felt like all of the air left the studio. I remember a camera operator peering around the side of her camera at us as I fumbled, attempting to answer. The Lord had told Brother Copeland to ask me that question. It made me determined and on fire to be debt free.

23. The Lord led the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt. He began to lead us too, and a transformation occurred.
24. A shift took place in us. Our view of debt changed. The Word of God was conforming us to His will.
 - a. We drove past the place where we had signed the mortgage papers and without thinking I pointed at it and said, "That is where we committed that awful sin." Now, borrowing was a sin to us. It wasn't before. We didn't have vision for it. But we did now.
25. "The very moment you make the quality decision to live debt free, God sees you debt free. All you need to do now is walk this out by faith, believe God's Word and be obedient to whatever He tells you to do." —Kenneth Copeland
26. I don't know what it would have looked like to have believed God for a house without debt. It would have been good. It would have been better. But the Lord is so kind and so good, He helped us. He walked us into it.
27. When we moved into the house, I had an inner sense that led me to believe we would only live in this house for about three years. It was actually four, but what did happen in three years was the knowing that we were to move back to the area we had lived in for 17 years.
28. During those three years, the Lord ingrained in us a new and higher standard for living.
 - a. We were surrounded with quality and beauty.
 - b. It took those three years for us to see ourselves in that kind of environment and for that environment to be in us to the degree it could be reproduced someplace else.
29. By now, our purpose in faith was stronger than it had ever been. I had learned so much about being led by the inner witness of the Spirit. We had watched the Lord provide for us, and we were making good progress on getting rid of the debt.



“A SHIFT TOOK
PLACE IN US.
OUR VIEW OF
DEBT CHANGED.
THE WORD OF
GOD WAS
CONFORMING
US TO HIS WILL.”



- a. For the next year we set our faith and ALL our efforts to pay it off—and we did!
 - b. It took 17 years to pay off the house we eventually sowed, but now, a house that was worth four times as much was paid off in only four years!
 - c. The seed of the Word was working in our lives.
30. We were determined to be in God's will, in the perfect house, in the right location and debt free. That determination took us to the Word at a whole new level. And the Word, along with being led by the Spirit, took us to our next home.

E. The Fourth House

- 1. So, here we were, again needing a place to live. This time we were smarter, and we set time aside to seek the Lord in His Word and His leading.
- 2. We took three days away to pray about nothing else. We prayed and sought the Lord until the afternoon, and then we enjoyed each other and reflected on our prayer time.
 - a. The Lord spoke to us. He gave us three things:
 - i. He reassured us that there was a house for us. (Remember, we were moving back to the area where the realtor had told us we had seen every house available.)
 - ii. He told us to not be afraid to remodel and to add on. I had struggled with that kind of thing in the past, but the Lord helped me through the decorating process of the house we were in. He told me that the house would have “personality.”
 - iii. He told us not to put the house we were in on the market until we had found the one we were going to live in.
- 3. It turned out that a house owned by a relative was for sale—it was a nice house but was not my style. It was only a little over half the size of the one we were living in. It was not what I thought I was looking for, but the Lord spoke.
 - a. Two phone calls came. One was from Gloria and she said, “Terri, I think that house is your house.” Another call came from a friend who had never been in the house but knew it was for sale. She said the same thing.

“The very moment
you make the

QUALITY DECISION

to live debt free, God
sees you debt free.



All you need to do
now is walk this out

by faith,

believe God's Word
and be obedient to
whatever He tells
you to do.”

—Kenneth Copeland

- b. Two phone calls were not enough to make me take action, but it was enough to look within. Now, when I looked at the house naturally, it was not what I needed or wanted; but when I turned inward, I found peace. “Let peace...act as umpire” (Colossians 3:15, *The Amplified Bible*).
- c. From that moment, we began a journey that took us step by step through a five-year process of a massive remodel. But it was five years of miracles and blessing. My, what we saw the Lord do. But, the greatest part of it all was the way our walk with Him increased. *That’s the heart of what faith is all about—walking with Him.*


**“FROM THAT MOMENT, WE BEGAN A JOURNEY THAT TOOK US
STEP BY STEP THROUGH A FIVE-YEAR PROCESS OF A MASSIVE
REMODEL. BUT IT WAS FIVE YEARS OF MIRACLES AND BLESSINGS.”**


- 4. The difference this time from all the times before was that we were really putting the Word first place. We looked to it for everything—starting with the location. Deuteronomy 12:11 (plus Deuteronomy 12:18 and 16:6, 15) speaks of the place that the Lord had chosen to put His Name, for His presence to dwell. He had led us to our place. We looked up scriptures about Abraham who was looking for a city whose builder and maker was God (Hebrews 11:10). We confessed those verses and we released faith that we were being led.
- 5. The first thing He did was give us a plan. We hadn’t sold our house yet, so we agreed to buy this house, but we needed the owners to let us “rent” from them until our house was sold. They did and as soon as our house sold, we paid cash for their house. Debt free again!
- 6. I knew I had to make changes in the house for it to work for us. I needed much more storage, and I wanted other additions, like an office for myself.
 - a. We started with an approach to make a few adjustments, but that is not what the Lord wanted. There was a vision the Lord had been working in me for nearly 30 years and it was scratching to get out. I was so agitated. I would start to settle for something because of cost or time, and the scratching inside would not let me do it. This scratching wouldn’t let me tolerate things that didn’t match the vision God had given me on the inside.
 - b. After already working on the remodel for a few months, I became so agitated because I knew things weren’t right. I stopped everything and again sought the Lord. We shut down any work for four months. We had expected to be in a rent house during this process for only six

months. We would now see that was not going to happen. It was a great time to develop patience.

7. There was a key that really got the whole process moving again. The Lord put it in my heart to honor George. All he had ever expressed a desire for was an office with a view of the water, one that was designed in a New England style. That made sense since he was raised on Cape Cod. While this house is not on the lake, it is across the street from ones that are. I asked the architect what we could do. He put a tall ladder outside the house and climbed up, and discovered that from a second story we could see the lake. But there was no second-story portion of the house that could be George's office. Unbeknown to me, the leading of the Holy Spirit was beginning a domino effect that took us down an amazing path: *Just add on to the master bath a few feet and go up a story.*
 - a. The effect of the Holy Spirit was phenomenal. We would pray in the spirit until an answer came, and it always did.
 - b. We went from little, to closets galore. When we took out a bookcase that was agitating me, we discovered space enough for a walk-in storage closet and a walk-in cedar closet! We took in the driveway on one side of the house, bumped about 4 feet on the other end and connected the roofline. Little did we know that would give us a third floor! In addition, by connecting the roofline we were able to make way for a new staircase to the second floor and to George's office. As we connected the new section to the old, we discovered an enormous amount of space already under the roof that simply needed to be finished out. Included was an area that I made our Christmas storage room, large enough for all our Christmas decorations, including our trees, which we are able to leave standing!
 - c. One time, the Lord spoke to my heart and said, *Believe Me for a dining room.* That sounded crazy; I had a dining room. But I had learned to be led. The room that was supposed to be a dining room was really too small for our family and through a process of planning and then replanning, I finally realized what was just a big, open room was supposed to be our dining room, and the other room was to be our music room. Oh, the joy of being led.
8. We had to be willing to listen, to learn, and sometimes redo. That scratching on the inside would not let me shortchange the vision.
9. All along, we were putting the Word first. We focused on the Word on a level we had never done before. We went to the Word for every element—for foundations, sinks, floors, walls, fabrics, light fixtures—and we found some cool ones. George found many of them in 1 Kings 6 and 7.* We discovered that God loves house design! We made confession cards and were speaking the scriptures, believing and receiving His perfect design for our house. Once we had stripped the existing sheetrock and reframed walls the way

we wanted, we invited friends to write confessions from scripture on the studs that pertained to the rooms they were going in.** The Word became doorknobs, paint, light fixtures and everything we needed!

- a. The testimony about our light fixtures was outstanding. Our decorator found a tent sale with designer light fixtures, including chandeliers and even a Waterford-crystal scone. We paid about 10 cents on the dollar.
 - b. Things like that were happening all the time. Money was coming in from unexpected sources. It was truly miraculous.
10. Even though the actual add-on footprint was small, we more than doubled the square footage of the house.
 11. What an amazing journey it was, and still is.

F. Your Journey

1. Your journey involves a stand of faith. There is a home for you. There is debt freedom for you. The same Word that produced a vision for us, house by house, will produce for you.
2. Sometimes the journey is as important as the destination, if the journey is a walk with the Lord and not just a desire for "stuff." Walk with the Lord and "stuff" will follow.
3. As you walk out the Word of God and walk in His precepts and His way of doing things, you will prosper. Through faith and patience you will obtain the promises.

***Pastor George's House Scriptures from 1 Kings 6-7, NIV**

The temple that King Solomon built for the LORD was sixty cubits long, twenty wide and thirty high. The portico at the front of the main hall of the temple extended the width of the temple, that is twenty cubits, and projected ten cubits from the front of the temple. He made narrow windows high up in the temple walls. Against the walls of the main hall and inner sanctuary he built a structure around the building, in which there were side rooms. The lowest floor was five cubits wide, the middle floor six cubits and the third floor seven. He made offset ledges around the outside of the temple so that nothing would be inserted into the temple walls (6:2-6).

On the walls all around the temple, in both the inner and outer rooms, he carved cherubim, palm trees and open flowers. He also covered the floors of both the inner and outer rooms of the temple with gold (6:29-30).

All these structures, from the outside to the great courtyard and from foundation to eaves, were made of blocks of high-grade stone cut to size and smoothed on their inner and outer faces. The foundations were laid with large stones of good quality, some measuring ten cubits and some eight. Above were high-grade stones, cut to size, and cedar beams (7:9-11).

He then made ten bronze basins, each holding forty baths and measuring four cubits across, one basin to go on each of the ten stands. He placed five of the stands on the south side of the temple and five on the north. He placed the Sea on the south side, at the southeast corner of the temple. He also made the pots and shovels and sprinkling bowls.... (7:38-40).

****Scriptures Friends Wrote on Our House** (paraphrased)

There, of course, were many others. But the search for God's Word to YOU is, perhaps, the richest part of the journey. The Holy Spirit knows how to lead you. Armed with that knowledge and a good concordance you will discover an endless treasure of scriptures coming to life for you.

Front Entry:

Song of Solomon 2:4: "His banner over me is love."

Psalms 37:23: "The steps of a good man are ordered of the Lord."

For the Kitchen:

Deuteronomy 28:5: "Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl."

Ecclesiastes 9:7: "Go your way, eat your bread with joy."

Psalms 103:5: "He satisfies your mouth with good things."

Behind the Refrigerator:

Romans 12:21: "Do not let yourselves be overcome by evil." (A personal favorite!)

Windows:

Ecclesiastes 11:7: "Truly the light is sweet and a pleasant thing it is for the eyes to behold."

By the Electrical Power Box:

Acts 1:8: "You shall receive power."

Matthew 5:14: "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid."

Pastor's Study:

Proverbs 14:33: "Wisdom is at home in the mind of one who has understanding."

Psalms 5:3: "My voice shall You hear in the morning."

Psalms 119:68: "Teach me thy statutes."

Bedroom:

Psalms 4:8: "I will both lay me down in peace and sleep for thou, Lord, only makest me dwell in safety."

Children's Room:

Isaiah 54:13: "Your children shall be disciples taught of the Lord and obedient to His will and great shall be the peace and undisturbed composure of your children."