
Shiloh Story – Rhudys’ Perspective

Shiloh started out as a Bed and Breakfast for our retirement income. As planning progressed, it became evident to us that being proprietors of a Bed and Breakfast was not a good fit for our gifts. For one reason, I don’t really like to cook. And another, I’m not much of an early morning person! One day as we were taking a walk together, we reevaluated our plan. My husband said to me, in all sincerity, “I have an idea, but you’ll think I’m crazy.” I prompted him to share. “I’m thinking we need to open a home for pregnant girls.” I quickly replied, “You are right! I think you’re crazy!” I honestly didn’t give it another thought for a very long time.

Mike would bring up the idea every so often, but it was never a serious consideration for me. Then through a series of events, I found myself running Family Life Services, a local crisis pregnancy organization. Through my day to day experiences with the clientele at the center, I began to see a need for a home for young women to be able to break the destructive cycles of behavior. Needless to say, it wasn’t long before I mentioned this to my husband, who quickly reminded me of his idea.

I finally had to agree. There was a huge need for a special kind of maternity home. Some place where women, with their children would have an opportunity for a life change. But not feeling called to actually run the home ourselves, we continued to pray for God to send someone whose vision was to do that very thing. In the meantime we researched, prayed, and waited.

One Saturday morning in March of 2006, I was attending a leadership conference at church. After taking my seat at a large table, a woman I was barely acquainted with sat down beside me. During a breakout session, this woman turned to me and spoke words seemingly unrelated to our breakout topic. “I have this vision”, she said. Then, “I’d better not say it here.” She added, looking around the table at all the other women in our group.

I remember grasping her arm, and telling her “No, say it!” And as she spoke, something began rising up in me. She was speaking my own vision for this home for women and children, yet it was different. She wanted to run it! I began to tremble and weep, as 12 other women witnessed that day the answering of prayer. Even as I type this now, the emotion of wonder and gratitude fill me.

That woman sitting next to me that day is Carol Alderman. She and her husband, Lee, have their own amazing story as to how God prepared them for the ministry of Shiloh. What began as the hope of a great vision in the spring of 2006 is now becoming a reality. What started with only four people with a God sized idea is now a growing team of committed volunteers. What an amazing journey this has been, and continues to be. I’ve shared with you only a few of the awesome and wonderful things that God has orchestrated so far. I wait expectantly for how He will fulfill all of our ministry needs.
