

# The Lord Builds the House



In the Bible, it is actually expressed as a warning:

Unless the Lord builds the house,  
those who build it labor in vain. Isa. 27:1

But we should not miss this: Within that warning is a wonderful promise for us all. The Lord builds “houses!”

I think we all realize that Isaiah was talking about much more than literal houses. He is telling us, be it indirectly, that our blessed Lord will be in all the important “structures” or “endeavors” we undertake in life and ministry.

If. We. Invite. Him.

## The “House of CIM”

We are certainly not perfect at this, but we always try to remind ourselves that Creative Impact Ministries must consciously rely upon the Lord’s blessing and involvement. We need His wisdom, guidance, provision, insight, if we are to be fruitful in His mission. At the end of the day, if we depend on our own abilities, it will all have been in vain.

Our mission was to build this “house” from the bare ground. We had to *excavate* – leave the pastoral ministry that we had done for over 30 years. We had to *lay a foundation* – all the technical and operational development. But we were blessed with partners who *invested* much needed prayer, encouragement and money into the process. And, with His help, we ended up with a nice little “cottage” that has allowed us to make significant impact. But there is more need and much more work to do than we can manage from what has been built thus far.

## Remodeling and Additions

We believe the Lord is indicating that it’s time for some changes. Not because we are ineffective or unfruitful. No. We must change because we believe God wants this little “cottage industry” to grow. So we have begun a remodel and are preparing for a future addition (or several additions). This is what we mean:

**1.** People always ask, “Where are you going next?” Many seem to think that we are always in some exotic place or another. The truth? We are only out of the country for about 10-12 weeks each year. For 40-42 weeks we are in pre-production or post-production right here in the USA. We *want* to do more projects and to serve more missionaries. And we think God wants more stories told to inspire even more people to engage in the Great Commission.

So one of our main priorities is to “remodel” the way we do our work; to develop better processes. This will enable us tell more stories, more powerfully. This remodel will also help prepare the way for additions to our team.

**2.** After field-testing our new processes, we plan to begin looking for additions to the CIM team.

We need help. Everything accomplished so far has been with a two-person crew. All the office work, business and communications; all the pre-production planning and prep; all the logistics of traveling with gear; all the set-up and operation of cameras, lights, and audio; and all the post-production and delivery; we – Jim & Lynn – have done it all. God has been faithful and it’s been mostly great. But we could do more and do it better if we had a larger team.

We are working on strategies for developing a team of part-time volunteers who can occasionally help in meaningful ways. And we are working on plans to add part or full-time team members who will raise their own support so that they can dedicate themselves to the work. And we are preparing for the day when we finally get too old. We want to pass this along to a team that shares our vision and is prepared for the work.

If God is building this, and we believe He is, then He will complete the work He has begun in us.

One of the most tangible ways that God does His work of building is through your prayers and support.

Thank you so much for your partnership with us and with the Lord.

And now... let’s strap on our tool belts and get back to joyful work!

As I was typing this, The Media Director for World Indigenous Missions sent me the text message I’ve included at below.

Doing final prep for the WIM documentary\* release tomorrow. Got the documentary playing in the background while I work. Can I just say again that y’all were the perfect candidates to make this film? You are the real deal. So grateful for your storytelling gift. It blows my mind every time I watch it.

We hope this kind of feedback blesses you also for the part **you** are playing in making this possible.

For information on how to make tax-deductible gifts, go to:  
[creativeimpactministries.org](http://creativeimpactministries.org)  
Click on the “PARTNER WITH US!” tab.

\* See the WIM documentary *Committed To His Harvest* on our website.