

Journey of Hope (Home)

The name of the home came to be after much discernment. I prayed about this, I thought about it, I looked through scripture, I sought out the advice of numerous people, and there was even a list of possible names that had been written down. A text message from my professor read as follows after sending her my list, “Those are all good. What I would like you to think and identify is what does the name represent? What values will the home have? What is the mission? Is there a verse in the Bible that reflects the home’s mission? When you identify those answers then the name will be easy.” A wise woman, indeed. I responded. Her last message to me read, “You are welcome! Enjoy the journey!” It was an aha moment for me. Journey. Yes, this is a journey, it has been a journey, and the journey is continuing, and God is moving mountains! His plan is perfect, and we are on this journey together, these women will be served in a way that is bigger than us! This is their journey of hope. Their journeys will be each unique, and we are offering them hope through the midst of it. We are offering them an alternative to what could have been a hopeless situation for them, offering hope in the option of a home to create a life or create a life to give to another couple. This is a Journey of Hope.

I looked to scripture to see what the Bible said about Journey and Hope. Ezra 8:21 says this about the journey, “There, by the Ahava Canal, I proclaimed a fast, so that we might humble ourselves before our God and ask him for a safe journey for us and our children, with all our possessions.” The verse that speaks to hope is from Proverbs 23:18, “There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off.” These two verses reflect the Journey of Hope Home and spoke to me deeply. I was awake until 3 in the morning praying, pining over scripture, and allowing it all to pour into me. I awoke this morning to two messages, one from Pastor Don and one from Ron Fontenot. Pastor Don’s message was, “I would love to hear how

you came to Journey of Hope, and I would encourage you to write it down, include the scripture, and your thought process as you sought discernment.” He was not aware at that point that I had done just that, and his words had already been heard before they were spoken. Another wise person. Ron Fontenot’s message read as follows, “I woke up in the middle of the night realizing you are living out Nehemiah’s vision. God put a vision in Nehemiah’s heart. At first, he wept then he went quietly out building consensus. I believe God has put something wonderful in your heart. This will happen.” Yet again, another wise man. You see, there have been more than just these three wise men/women, actually numerous ones that have helped me in this journey. It is now up to us to decide if this Journey is going to be taken, will we follow this Journey that will also be a Journey of Hope for these women that so desperately need hope.