The first gift -- K.I.S.S.: Keep It Simple, Sista'

Think back to the last 5 homestead decisions that you made. And write down the three main motivations for each decision.

1	 	 	
2	 	 	
3	 	 	
4	 	 	
5	 	 	

Do you see a pattern? Is there one overwhelming motivation that comes forward in your homestead dreams? Self-reliance? Godly obedience? Fear of the future? Desire for security? Freedom from pain? Independence? Adventure? Freedom from boredom? Healthy lifestyle? Desire for approval?

Is there conflict between two or more equally weighted values? All conflict is not a negative but it may be a warning that there is unresolved issues that could be colouring your ability to make wise decisions. Being aware of this will help you uncomplicated your homestead lifestyle.

Gift number 2 – Faith

What do you trust in? Who do you believe? Who can you trust? When our trust is divided between opposing worldviews, our life become conflicted and more complicated. For instance, if you trust the whole food, crunchy mamma bloggers who advocate organic, whole foods, scratch cooking, and bone broth, coconut oil, and fermented foods but then hear of an amazing sale on Krft. Dnnr and the prepper voices start pushing you to stock up, before it's too late – this gets complicated.

Which voices are you listening to when it comes to small decisions – like what to feed your family? Look closely and discern the underlying faith message that these voices are speaking.

Write your thoughts here:

What I trust/where my faith is	The underlying faith in outside messages

Highlight where these two things are in conflict – this is where your life becomes more complicated.

The third gift – Mentors

Who are the people that you follow and respect on social media? Which blogs do you subscribe to? Are you still reading them? Pick 5 voices that share your values and worldview, and that speak to you consistently and encourage you on your journey. Subscribe to their newsletters and go to their page on Facebook.

Write down their names and the links to their websites, so that you can find them again, if you get distracted.

Often bloggers put more in their newsletters than appears on their Facebook pages and on their blog. There is a more intimate relationship in the newsletter. Be sure to open the newsletters you receive to get the full benefit from this free mentoring. Don't waste the gift.

Mentor's Name	Blog address	Facebook Page

Is there an in-person mentor that is helping you on your homestead journey?

Name:	Phone:	Email:

Fourth gift - Turning

"We all want progress, but if you're on the wrong road, progress means doing an about-turn and walking back to the right road; in that case, the man who turns back soonest is the most progressive." C. S. Lewis

What projects are you doing on your homestead that have lost their JOY? Look at them closely. Is it something that was a hobby that you tried to make a living from? Should you scale them back to hobby once more? Was it something that someone else valued, rather than you?

The fifth gift - Humility

What projects on your homestead didn't turn out the way you'd hoped? How can you get out of them? Is there livestock to sell? Is there a fencing or housing situation that needs correcting? Set 3 goals for this summer so that you can change things. And if you need to forgive someone, even yourself, do it. "Unforgiveness is like drinking poison and expecting the other person to die."

Move forward with a plan.

The sixth gift - The Journey

Describe your ideal homestead:

Describe the homestead that you have right now – even if that is a city apartment. Write down each thing that you like about it and some things that you'd change if you could.

Is there anything that you want to change – a project that isn't working out the way you'd hoped, something that you aren't doing that you want to start doing? Set some goals – include a time frame:

The seventh gift - Contentment

Take a minute and write down 5 things about your homestead journey that give you joy and hope for the future. Write them on a piece of paper and tape them on your fridge. These things are simple gifts.

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	