



HUNTERSVILLE

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They help redesign homes and marriages

Christina and Tim Lewis left the high life and found purpose in Huntersville.

Annette Calud

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Christina (left) and Tim Lewis inspire and teach others how to live well, spend less and love coming home. They're shown with their children Cole (left center) and Camden. COURTESY OF THE REDESIGN COMPANY

A couple I met a few years ago are an inspiration to all who meet them. They have a beautiful story of learning what is important in life and in a marriage.

Christina and Tim Lewis met at Cedarville University. In summer 1991, they married.

They admitted the first year of marriage was difficult.

"It was miserable," Christina said. They learned to deal with conflict immediately. "It was all about nipping it in the bud," she said. They also learned that "Love does not keep lists or records of wrong," Tim said.

In New Hampshire, Tim worked for ABC television, then joined the computer networking industry in the dot-com era. The Lewises found themselves living the high life with a big house, expensive cars and lavish vacations.

But Rick Warren's "The Purpose Driven Life" gave them the idea there was something bigger for them.

The Lewises decided to downsize. Tim gave up his job. They sold their home and their fancy cars and moved to Huntersville.

The first three years here, Tim was unemployed, and they lived off savings.

Christina had worked for an architectural firm previously and had a gift for redesigning homes with furnishings already in the house.

"I could take what was already in the home and make it look better," she said. She started The Redesign Co.

Tim had a degree in psychology and behavioral science. He had read that 20percent of all men would not see a counselor but would agree to see a coach. He pursued a degree in biblical counseling.

Tim took a job at WSOC-TV in Charlotte, continued his studies and became a marriage coach.

Five years after moving to Huntersville, Christina said, "We really have figured it out. We only work as much as we need to. We have learned to live well and spend less."

At Tim's home office, clients noticed both their loving marriage and their stylishly decorated home. They would say, "I want what you have with your wife."

Christina would get Internet messages that said, "I know you're happy. I'm not. Can you help me?"

Today they work independently as an interior designer and a marriage coach. But they also work together in their newly formed partnership, The Redesign Co. and Marriage Redesign, specializing in helping others redesign their lives.

The Lewises shared nine ways to redesign your life:

Resolve to love the one you are with.

Refuse to value money more than time.

Remember the past but dwell in the moment.

Reorganize, keeping only what you know to be useful or beautiful.

Resist the urge to always be right.

Respect all people.

Rearrange your furniture to accommodate great conversation.

Respond with love and laughter.

Realize peace.


For more information, visit www.marriageredesign.com.

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