

# The Self-Sufficient Homestead

A Practical Guide to Creating Revenue  
from Your Homestead



SIMEON FUCHS

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If you're still reading this fine print, give yourself a pat on the back because you, sir/ma'am, are someone who pays attention to details. You'll do great with this book! Now let's get at it!

### Cover Design by:

Aubrey Bjork (<http://abjork.weebly.com/>)

### Content Editor:

Jennifer Carter ([https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCw3wYRliark\\_lp301Z9pGUQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCw3wYRliark_lp301Z9pGUQ))

### Editor:

Dennie Olson



To Alex, my faithful wife, the love of my life.

To my four children Isak, Henry, Ellie and Daniel.

May you all follow God and who He has made  
you to be! May you find joy and purpose in serving  
your Creator!

# Contents

<b>Contents</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Foreword</b>	<b>7</b>
Why this Book?	7
What to Expect from this Book?	8
Who this Book is for?	9
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>10</b>
Who I am	10
My Early Life	10
A Life-Changing Move	11
Let's be Honest	13
Never Give Up	14
The Homesteading Life	15
Yearning for the Homesteading Life	16
My Grandfather's Life	17
The Modern Homesteading Life	18
A Life Given Up	19
Reviving Life	23
A Life Free from Boredom	24
<b>Dreaming of the Homesteading Life</b>	<b>25</b>
Aaron's Life	25
Joe and Emily's Life	25
Jen's Life	26
Your Life	26
A New Life	28
A Better Life	29
Let's Stay Realistic	31
Let's Fail Together	32
Let's Not Turn Bitter	33
Let's Find Hope	34
Let's Try again	35
Let's Live What's Right	35
When the Dream Becomes a Nightmare	36

<b>Step 1: Is Homesteading Right For Me?</b>	<b>38</b>
What Do You Want?	38
Who Are You?	40
Who Are You Not?	42
Country Living, Homesteading or Farming?	45
Abandoning Life or Changing Life?	47
Leaving City Life?	49
Living More With Less	51
Living With The Seasons	52
Living With Food From Your Home	54
Living With Your Roots at Home	55
What is it I Want to Do The Most?	56
Can I Fulfill My dreams on My Homestead?	57
Can I Create Extra Revenue by Living this Dream of Mine?	61
<u>Worksheet Step 1</u>	<u>62</u>
<b>Summary Step 1</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Step 2: Getting Ready to Homestead</b>	<b>80</b>
The Necessity of Income	80
Plan to Live With Low Costs	80
Freedom from Debt	86
Cover Unavoidable Costs	87
Increasing Product Value	88
Understanding How it All Connects	91
Create Extra Revenue Streams that Pay for Additional Costs and Expenses	92
Plan Your Seasons	93
Making Time to Do it All	94
Create a battle plan	97
<u>Worksheet Step 2</u>	<u>98</u>
<b>Summary Step 2</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>Step 3: Creating Revenue Streams</b>	<b>111</b>
Nursery	114
Sharpening Service	116
Buy and Resell	118
Fresh Ground Flour	120

Eggs	122
Hatchery	124
Firewood / Firewood Processor	126
Cattle	128
Garlic	130
Tourism	132
Courses & Classes	134
Breeding & Selling	136
Beeswax Candles	138
Jams & Jellies	140
Machine Rental Service	142
Café	144
YouTube / Video	146
Berry Picking	148
Turkeys	150
<b>The Right Mindset for Successful Marketing</b>	<b>152</b>
How Your Customer Thinks	152
How You Should Think	158
How a Salesman Thinks	160
<u>Worksheet Step 3</u>	<u>163</u>
<b>Summary Step 3</b>	<b>167</b>
<b>Epilogue</b>	<b>168</b>

# Foreword

## WHY THIS BOOK?

This book is going to focus on making money in the context of the homestead. There are a lot of other aspects of homesteading, but honestly I think finances might be the biggest. Either people don't have the funds to get into homesteading, or they can't make it work financially long-term and the costs eat them up.

Starting a new life is hard. Making a better life is where most fail.

In this book I will help prepare you for this transition by giving you some reality checks, evaluating your life and dreams, planning for the transition as well as give you some hands on ideas for different revenue streams on the homestead.

Over the years I have learned a lot from experience, failure and success. I tend to forget how valuable I would have found this information had it been available when I started homesteading.

My hope is to combine a little bit of those experiences and some of that knowledge into this short, easy-to-read book, by offering ideas and actions that can easily be implemented and put to the test by those starting in the homesteading lifestyle, or thinking about doing so.

While trying to put my thoughts on paper I asked my wife, "If you wanted to start homesteading but had no idea how to make it work practically, what would you expect from a book?"

Her answer was very simple, "I would want to hear how you think, to get ideas, and have help to learn to think the same way."

I hope that by reading this book you can experience just that.

## WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THIS BOOK?

This book is supposed to be easy-to-read and straight to the point. It contains mainly principals that are true in many areas of life, but ones I have practically implemented in the homesteading lifestyle.

I would consider this book a combination of an autobiographical work, a textbook, and a workbook.

Expect it to inspire you to think and plan for yourself. I will be asking a lot of questions. In a sense, you will finish writing this book as you answer those questions.

You might say, “Simeon, I want answers. I have enough questions of my own!”

The fact that I will be asking questions may be confusing to you. Don’t worry. Asking the right questions will help you find the right answers.

I don’t know why it has been so hard for me to ask myself the right questions. I guess I am getting better at it, but it is hard nevertheless. Maybe the reason is because it is a challenge to look at oneself objectively. I also think it has to do with the fact that when we ask questions, whether to ourselves or someone else, it makes us feel silly, foolish or inferior.

The old Chinese Proverb is true, Ask a question and you will appear foolish for five minutes but be wise for the rest of your life. Don’t ask a question and you will appear wise for five minutes but stay a fool for your entire life.

Expect to ask and answer questions of yourself while working through the three steps on the following pages.

You need to write your own story, and you will be able to use this book as a guide to get your life and dream evaluated, planned out, and started up with good ideas.



This will require commitment and hard work from you, but it should also be an encouragement to chase your dreams.

I want to challenge you to think through specific and important things before you begin your homesteading journey, and then continue to do so as you homestead.

In this book, I will open up about challenges and personal struggles that my wife and I have gone through. Part of that will be sharing about my faith, which is impossible to leave out of my story.

## **WHO THIS BOOK IS FOR?**

It is for those who are desiring to homestead or exploring the possibilities. It is for those who need help making extra revenue in the context of a homestead start-up, or are wanting to start up prepared.

If that person is you, then this book aims to lead you, your life and homestead closer to your goal of self-sufficiency.

Whether you have a suburban backyard or a 60-acre homestead, all the principles used are scalable and will easily allow you to start small and scale them up later should you decide to do so.

I will not be teaching you step-by-step how to keep chickens or run a homestead, but will instead inspire you with ideas of what you can do and then help you understand or pin down what you want to do.

Though all principles in this book are scalable, my target audience are those who want to live on a smaller homestead, not running a big farm enterprise.

This book is also for those who want to create EXTRA revenue on the homestead. It will help you get things going, and then later on turn certain areas into a full-time enterprise to make a living.

# Introduction

## WHO I AM

My name is Simeon. I am a husband, a father of four, a YouTuber, a homesteader and a pastor. My name is not a very common one. Actually, very few people in Sweden can pronounce it the right way. I have kind of gotten used to the fact that folks call me Simon and I sometimes even introduce myself that way. It just seems to make things easier.

Ever since I was a very young boy I knew that my story would be special. Not because of my unique name or because I was better or worse than anyone else, but because I firmly believed there was a plan and purpose just for me. I believe there is a plan and purpose for you, as well, and your story is special too.

## MY EARLY LIFE

I was born and raised in Germany, in a village in the southern Siegerland. It was a beautiful and prosperous village that was tucked away in a valley, surrounded by mountains. The village bordered lush green fields that laid on the side of the mountains. Most of the area, though, was beautiful forest which I often explored with my grandfather on refreshing walks. Beech and oak trees announced the arrival of spring every year by turning the mountains into an ocean of bright green.

Like most German towns, you could still see the impact that the long and horrible war left on the village where I grew up. Because of its iron ore industry, the area had been hit hard by bombs during WWII. There were beautiful old houses in the old village center that survived the war. As a young boy, I loved walking on the narrow paths that led through the historical parts of town.

The mountains surrounding our village are like Swiss cheese inside and have lots of flooded tunnels from the time when tough miners dug into them to harvest

precious metal. The mining, which went on for a long time, formed and shaped the culture in which I grew up.

It was a tough culture where the language and people were generally harsh. Work was looked at as something that had to hurt and burn. As a child I didn't see many happy adults, and to be honest, I didn't want to grow up and become like them. For the most part, they seemed to be miserable and unhappy.

I was a German kid through and through and that was all I knew. As far as we could look back, our ancestors were German.

My dad owned his own electric company and my mom was a stay at home mom with four children, nine years apart. In the mid 1990s my parents built their dream home on the outskirts of the village, right next to the fields with a creek flowing close to our house. Nature was my back yard.

Many summers we went on vacation to get a break from the stress of normal day life. My parents tried to escape the crowded beaches and cities of central and western Europe and eventually took us to Sweden on a regular basis. The untouched nature and calm they found there helped to recharge their batteries from their stressful lifestyle.

In the year 2000, my parents bought a vacation home in Västra Götaland, Sweden. One year later, they started thinking about moving to Sweden. My dad's health had gotten to the point where the doctor was very concerned. Constant stress caused the doctor to speak frankly, "I don't know that you will reach retirement age if you continue like this."

## **A LIFE-CHANGING MOVE**

My parents took action. They sold their dream house and company and bought an old, rundown farm in Sweden. In fact, the farm was so rundown that my parents dismissed it the first time they looked at it. The fields were all overgrown with thick

# Buy The Full Book

These are just the first 11 pages. Buy the entire book to work through the 3 steps and Revenue Battle Plans plus read about Simeon's personal homesteading journey. This book will help prepare you for your dream or get you back on track if you are struggling on your existing homestead.



Available as eBook  
& Audiobook

Get it at  
[swedishhomestead.com!](http://swedishhomestead.com!)