

Spotlight on our Donors

Gary Vollbracht has given generously to make it possible for the Pathwork Press to offer free audio recordings for [download in the Pathwork estore](#). Here he shares candidly, his inspiration.

A Sense of Calling...

In the second year of my Pathwork Transformation Program at Sevenoaks, in 2002, I became drawn to the wisdom of the Pathwork Lectures. They spoke to me, resonated with my truth deep within my soul, and awaken me. Dense, pithy, cogent teachings that felt so relevant in every way, bridging the gap between my solid roots in Christianity, dogmatic as they were, to Life as I was experiencing it in my most recent decade of life. All of this was amazing to me, a gift from the Gods!

To make better use of my time while driving, and for reasons unknown beyond that, I took to recording the lectures. This was challenging in the beginning in that I simply recorded them while reading into a \$19 cassette tape recorder. Choppy, hard to edit, nevertheless it was worth it to me.

Then in 2006 it was as if all the technology I needed to do this more professionally and easily was dumped into my lap. I Googled "recording software" and was led to Peak software by BIAS that worked on my Mac. This I could use to record at a podium I configured in one room where it could be silent while the computer was recording in my office. It took some playing around, but was all effortless effort to arrive at a process that would work. Finally I got a professional CD/DVD duplicator, learned about making mp3 files that allowed all my hours of recording to be loaded onto an iPod, and I was set to move forward on my journey to record readings all 258 of the Pathwork Lectures. This grace of technology was amazing in its own right.

But my heart and soul are deeply connected to the wisdom of the Lectures themselves, not the technology. A highpoint in the process is my reading and carefully underlining and marking the lecture to make sure the reading accurately connotes the meaning, to the best of my understanding. In this process sometimes I just stop after a sentence and marvel at such

wisdom pouring forth from the page. It can move me to tears.

In all, I read or listen to a lecture five or more times in this process. When I do the initial recording I stand at a podium and read, noticing that my left hand keeps time with the phrasing of the lecture. If I make a mistake, and this happens many times on each page, I stop, mark it, and record it again, sometimes five or six times until I think I have it the way it was meant.

The next step is the most time-consuming and tedious. This is the first edit where I cut, paste, delete, add paragraph markers, and otherwise carefully assure that every word is as it was in the written text. This ends up with one or two more recording efforts for mistakes I did not catch the first time. But in all of this, I am joyfully taking in the wisdom of the material and rarely get tired of this tedious editing process.

I am now entering my fourth year of this project, a little beyond 2/3 through the 258 lectures. At one point I was curious just how long the collection of lectures was. It turns out that they contain about 1,050,00 words, 35% longer than the Old and New Testament bible. It takes me about 6 or 7 hours to record a lecture, so thus far I have spent just over 1,000 hours in this recording project and have about 500 hours to go. And I am more passionate, more inspired, and more engaged with the lectures today than when I first began. All of this effortless effort points to this recording project being a part of my calling. I am full of gratitude for this opportunity, and quite humbled.

Gary Vollbracht
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