Why Many People Regret Not Buying Land 2 Years Earlier

Some decisions do not look like life changing moments when they are happening. They look small, ordinary, even easy to postpone. People often assume there will always be more time, another opportunity, or a better moment to act. But in real estate, those small decisions often become the difference between ownership and regret.

What makes it even more dangerous is how normal the delay feels. There is no alarm, no pressure, no immediate consequence. Just a quiet decision to “wait a little longer.” Yet behind that delay, the market continues moving, prices continue shifting, and opportunities quietly slip away.

This is one of those stories:

Feature Story: A Couple With a Simple Dream

They were newly married and just beginning their life together. Nothing extravagant, nothing complicated. Just two people trying to build something stable. From the beginning, they agreed on one major goal, to buy land in Abuja and start building their future early. It was not just about investment, it was about security. A place they could call their own no matter what life brought later. So they started saving.

Month after month, they put money aside through small sacrifices and careful planning. They skipped things they did not need, and every contribution brought them closer to that goal. At the time, the land they were targeting was still affordable. It was within reach, not cheap, but realistic based on what they had planned. It felt like they were on track.

When they finally reached the point where they had enough to make the initial payment, the wife brought it up again. It was time to secure the land. She believed they should act immediately because the opportunity was already in front of them and they had saved for this exact purpose.

But the husband saw it differently. He told her to wait. He said he had come across another opportunity that could supposedly double their money within a short period. According to him, if it worked, they would not just buy land, they would buy more land later in better locations and with more comfort.

It sounded smart in theory, but it was uncertain. The wife was unsure because she did not understand why they should delay something already within reach. But the husband was

confident, perhaps overconfident. Without full agreement, he went ahead and took the money.
At first, there was hope. Messages were exchanged, updates were expected, and promises were made about returns and timing. Then things started changing. The responses slowed down, the clarity disappeared, and the certainty he once spoke with began to fade.
Eventually, the truth became clear. The money was gone completely. The promised double return never came, and the opportunity that was supposed to move them forward had instead taken them backward.
At first, they focused on the money, but the real damage showed later. The land they were planning to buy did not remain the same. It moved slowly at first, then faster. New developments started around the area. More buyers came in. Infrastructure improved. Demand increased, and prices followed.
By the time they looked again, the same land they could have secured comfortably was no longer within their budget. It had doubled in price, turning a simple decision into a major financial setback.

The Second Chance and the Cost of Waiting

The wife still had something left, her personal savings of ₦2 million. It was no longer enough to buy a full plot because the entry point had already moved. The opportunity they missed had grown beyond what they initially needed. So she adjusted.
Instead of waiting again, she chose a different path. She went for fractional ownership, a structured way to still enter the market even if not at the original level they had planned. Through that, she secured a portion of land in a growing area. It was not the dream they started with, but it was at least a foothold in the market.
The land they once debated over did not remain the same. Today, it is worth almost twice what it was at that time. More importantly, it is no longer easily accessible. Entry is harder, options are fewer, and the window they once had is gone.
For the husband, buying into that same location now would require far more capital than he originally needed.
That is the part that stays in the mind the most. Not just the loss, but the timing of the loss

The Real Lesson Behind This Story

Most people think real estate regret comes from not having money.
But more often, it comes from timing.
Because in real estate:

- Prices do not wait
- Opportunities do not pause
- Markets do not slow down for indecision

What feels like “let me think about it” today can become “I wish I had acted” tomorrow.

Final Thought

The hardest part of real estate is not finding opportunities. It is recognizing when you already have one in front of you.
And acting before it moves. Because in most cases, regret does not come from bad decisions. It comes from delayed ones. If you are currently considering land investment, understand this clearly: waiting does not freeze the market.
It moves without you.
With De Velli, you can access structured and flexible entry options that help you secure land positions without missing timing opportunities completely.

- Explore available land options.
- Speak with a property advisor.
- Secure your entry while it is still within reach.

Because the opportunity you delay today may be the one someone else profits from tomorrow.