

## **MoneyWise Workshop Module 1: Understanding Financial Principles – Setting Priorities**

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### **Introduction to the Intermediate Materials**

Welcome to the intermediate materials of the website. These materials were developed by credentialed professionals who wanted to help individuals and families become more financially self-reliant. There is nothing for sale here—it is all free. It is all made available by the Marriott School of Management at Brigham Young University, the Finance Department and the Provident Living Advocates Network, a group of professionals who give back to the University and the community at large through teaching of financial education. Our mission is to help you become financially self-reliant so you and your spouse and family can accomplish your divine missions and help and serve others.

### **All We Ask of You**

We ask you to read through all six of the intermediate chapters on personal finance and watch the videos. We ask you to fill out the eight Financial Priorities sheet as you are reading and watching. These are the eight key areas you should understand and follow at you work to be more financially self-reliant. We then ask you to share what you learn with others. Our purpose in helping you is not just to teach you; it is to teach teachers so you can go out and help others. And then provide us with suggestions and feedback. At the end of this time we hope you'll give us some ideas on what we can do to do better.

Personal finance is a five step process. It is decide, educate, commit, believe, and achieve.

Decide. First, you must first decide the “why” behind why you are doing this? Why do you want to learn personal finance? What do you expect personal finance to bring into your life? What do you hope it will help you accomplish? Here is where we answer the most critical of all questions, the “why” of why we are doing this, or the doctrines. Too often, people get into the “how” of personal finance without knowing the “why” and it leads to major problems later.

Educate. Second, you must educate yourself to your available options. This is the “what” of personal finance. This is where we come to understand and prioritize the principles. This is not a simple process to become educated in this area although it can be done. There is much to be learned in this area. But not only is there a lot of information, much of this information changes every year, including tax rates, tax tables, contribution limits for retirement, contribution limits for education savings, estate tax limits and percentages, etc. The challenge is to keep up with both the large body of knowledge as well as the information that changes yearly.

Commit. Third, once we know the “why” of our actions and the “what” that we need to do, it comes down to the “how” and choice. We need to determine the goals that will most likely take us to where we want to be. We have given you the Eight Financial Priorities sheet, which gives you key areas where you should set goals. But the challenge for most people is not setting goals. The challenge is how do we commit to really accomplish the goals that we have set? We need to work to help ourselves and others to set and accomplish the goals that will take us toward what we really want to accomplish. How do we take responsibility for our choices? We will help address those issues.

Believe. Fourth, we must believe that we can accomplish the things we set out to accomplish. We must have the vision to know that we can accomplish these things if we are willing to put in the effort, work, and prayer to seek God’s help. I believe that those who believe in God have an added benefit. If we seek God’s help in setting and committing to our personal and family goals then trust His promises to us, He will help us accomplish them, and we will accomplish the goals that are most important for us. Not only will we accomplish our goals, but they will be the right goals for ourselves and our families.

Achieve. Finally, we must work to achieve the goals that we have set. We must be willing to work to make the necessary sacrifices to help us to accomplish our goals. But we must also be sure that we keep balance in our goals, ensuring that we accomplish our spiritual and temporal goals in a consistent and balanced manner.

This course will work to help you accomplish each of these areas.

## **Objectives**

We have four objectives for this first chapter. They are:

1. Understand perspective
2. Set priorities
3. Communicate clearly, and
4. Budget well.

### **1. Understand Perspective**

When we talk about understand perspective, our perspective is this: Personal finance is simply a part of the gospel of Jesus Christ. It’s part of being a good Christian. And that perspective has some very important implications.

Before we can decide more about wise money management, we must understand and answer two critical questions. The first is: “Why does the Lord want us to learn personal finance or wise money management?” Did you ever wonder about these “why” questions? David A. Bednar said:

Understand and love the doctrine of Christ. Doctrine refers to the eternal, unchanging, and simple truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Doctrines are never altered. They never vary. They will always be the same. You can always count on them. Brothers and sisters, doctrine answers the why questions of our lives. . . In the times in which we live, only the restored gospel of Jesus Christ has the answers to the why questions that matter most.<sup>i</sup>

While there are likely many different “whys”, let me share a few thoughts on the doctrine of Christ for why I believe God wants us to learn personal finance.

### Personal finance can help bring us to Christ

The ultimate purpose of everything we do, and God does, is to bring us to Christ. Personal finance helps us learn Christ-like characteristics of charity<sup>ii</sup>, sacrifice<sup>iii</sup>, priorities<sup>iv</sup>, love<sup>v</sup>, service<sup>vi</sup>, trust<sup>vii</sup>, giving<sup>viii</sup>, etc. so we can be like Him while at the same time providing an environment where we can apply those teachings in our lives through our choices.<sup>ix</sup> C. Max Caldwell said:

Whatever the problem may be in a person’s life—failure to pay tithing, breaking the Word of Wisdom, casual church attendance, [**or I add - poor financial habits**, the]—real issue is faith in Jesus Christ. If we can help people obtain the gift of faith in Christ, good works will follow. The end purpose of any law of God is to bring us to Christ. And how well will the law work? It depends on what we think of the Author of the law.<sup>x</sup>

We have been commanded by prophets and the scriptures to be financially wise.

[We] have been counseled for many years to prepare for adversity by having a little money set aside. Doing so adds immeasurably to security and well being. Every family has a responsibility to provide for its own needs to the extent possible.

We encourage you wherever you may live in the world to prepare for adversity by looking to the condition of your finances. We urge you to be modest in our expenditures; discipline yourselves in your purchases to avoid debt. Pay off debt as quickly as you can, and free yourselves from bondage. Save a little money regularly to gradually build a financial reserve. If you have paid your debts and have a financial reserve, even though it be small, you and your family will feel more secure and enjoy greater peace in your hearts. May the Lord bless you in your family financial efforts.<sup>xi</sup>

Whether we view this counsel on being financially wise as a nice thing to do or a commandment of God will provide a great difference in our motivation. Do we treat it as a commandment from God?

### Personal finance can help us accomplish our divine missions

We all have divine missions to perform here on earth, and personal finance can help. Personal finance helps us accomplish our divine missions by helping us learn important lessons and skills<sup>xii</sup>, doing good<sup>xiii</sup>, enduring affliction<sup>xiv</sup>, work<sup>xv</sup>, planning<sup>xvi</sup>, sacrifice<sup>xvii</sup>, and priorities.<sup>xviii</sup> Gene R. Cook said:

I bear testimony of the fact that if you keep the commandments, He nourishes you, strengthens you, and provides you means for accomplishing all things necessary to faithfully finish your divine mission here on earth. May the Lord bless you in your decisions at this important time in your lives.<sup>xix</sup>

We are all at an important time in our lives, regardless of our age. Ask yourself: Do I really believe that I have a mission here on earth to perform and am I performing it?

### Personal finance can help us return with our families back to Heavenly Father's presence

Personal finance helps us return to Heavenly Father's presence by helping us learn the importance of family<sup>xx</sup>, marriage<sup>xxi</sup>, children<sup>xxii</sup>, equality of marriage partners<sup>xxiii</sup>, parental responsibilities<sup>xxiv</sup>, and priorities.<sup>xxv</sup> David O. McKay reminded us: "No other success can compensate for failure in the home."<sup>xxvi</sup> Harold B. Lee encouraged us, "The most important work you will do will be within the walls of your own home."<sup>xxvii</sup>

We will be disappointed in life if we gain the world's riches and lose our families. We must learn to better apply personal finance in the Lord's way, using his Plan and obeying His commandments.

### Finally, personal finance can help us become wiser stewards

Personal finance helps us learn to be wiser financial stewards over the things God has blessed us with. Joe J. Christensen said: "Our resources are a stewardship, not our possessions. I am confident that we will literally be called upon to make an accounting before God concerning how we have used them to bless lives and build the kingdom."<sup>xxviii</sup>

For some, a critical question at judgment day from our Savior will be: "How well did you use the resources I blessed you with in the service of your fellowmen?"

We now understand the first question, the "why" of wise money management. Our second critical question is: "Why are these "whys" important?" As I have pondered this question, I believe it is because it gives us perspective.

### **Understand Perspective: Principles of Finance**

If personal finance is simply living the gospel of Jesus Christ, then that has interesting implications. When a prophet tells us to live on a budget<sup>xxix</sup>, all of a sudden it no longer becomes a question of money, it becomes a question of faith.

This perspective is important and is based on three important principles. The first principle is ownership. Everything we have is the Lord's. The scriptures teach "The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein."<sup>xxx</sup> Can you have pride in your friend's car or your neighbor's education? If you take away ownership, does it also take away

pride? If we truly believe that everything is the Lord's as the scriptures say, we would likely handle our money differently.

The second principle is stewardship. We are not owners over the things that we have and are, we are stewards. The Lord has said: "it is expedient that I, the Lord, should make every man accountable, as a steward over earthly blessings, which I have made and prepared."<sup>xxxix</sup>

The final principle is accountability. We know from the scriptures that we will be held accountable for our thoughts, words and actions. I believe we will also be held accountable for every dollar that goes through our hands. And the Lord's going to ask us how we did with the things He lent us. I hope that makes personal finance seem more personal. And if we can put it in a correct perspective that all these things are God's, then all of a sudden it's not a question of money anymore--it's a question of what Heavenly Father wants us to do. And because He wants us to do it, He has promised us He will help us to accomplish it.<sup>xxxii</sup>

### **Becoming Provident Providers Video<sup>xxxiii</sup>**

Many of you have seen the video "Becoming Provident Providers" by Robert D. Hales. Please watch this if you are able. It is interesting that Elder Hales calls debt "another addiction." You need to be very careful about debt.

## **2. Set Goals**

The second thing we're going to talk about today is to set goals. What do you want out of life? In this series of lessons, we have eight goals or priorities we'd like you to work on that were developed with professionals, clergy, academicians, and families. They are: Communicate clearly, Pay tithes and offerings, Learn to manage money and use a budget, Avoid and pay off debt, Prepare for emergencies and build a reserve, Protect yourself and your family through adequate insurance, Save for long-term goals including home, education, retirement and missions, and Teach family members.<sup>xxxiv</sup>

We hope, through this series, that you will think about and set goals in each of these eight areas. Realize that we can only give you an introduction here, hopefully enough to get you interested. We will give you enough direction and ideas to help you to make some good decisions but we encourage you to study, read, and learn more on your own with the additional resources and readings. Use the website at <http://personalfinance.byu.edu>. Use the additional chapters from the Advanced Materials. In addition to all the readings, PowerPoints and videos, there are a number of learning tools that can help you as you work to accomplish your specific goals.

### **Other Topics to Discuss**

There are more areas beyond the eight priorities that are important. How about starting family (for the newly married), charitable giving, owning a business, recreation, allowances, saving for your own missions, saving for a big purchase, goods and services. There are a lot of other areas that we'll talk about that this series covers. So what we'll want to do is give you some basic

information, to help educate you about your options, and then have you decide what is important and commit to your goals.

### **What Bishops Want You to Know**

We talked with a number of bishops about what they wanted young adults and young marrieds to know. These are the things that they have found important in their lives and want you to know. They include:

- Learn how to live on a budget!
- Don't expect to have everything right now.
- Don't blow through large amounts of cash coming (e.g., grants and scholarships) and going (e.g., tuition and rent).
- Use government help only when appropriate.
- Learn to protect your identity.
- Don't automatically turn to your parents to "bail you out." You need to learn that there are consequences to irresponsible spending.
- Learn to manage credit cards and insure yourself to avoid debt.
- Don't bring lots of debt into a marriage.
- Don't take on debt without considering your future earning capacity.

As you think through this list, write down some thoughts and goals you can set as you work to become more financially self-reliant.

### **3. Communicate Clearly**

Marriage is bringing together two individuals with differing backgrounds, behaviors, family situations, educations and views on finances, just to name a few. As such, it is important that couples communicate. Some have wondered what is the topic that couples argue the most about? Experience has shown that in most marriages, money becomes one of the most important concerns.

Two important questions are why that is the case and what can we do to eliminate that problem? Communication in marriage is a challenge--you've got two people with different experiences, habits, and family backgrounds coming together to accomplish a common goal. But the key is, if we can do it from a very personal side, from the gospel of Jesus Christ we can do so much better.

#### **Communication Video**

It is critical in marriage and life that we communicate clearly. Often, problems occur because we either do not understand the other person's message, or we understand incorrectly. I like the Berlitz video which makes this point.<sup>xxxv</sup>

#### **Reasons Money Can Be an Issue in Marriage**

Communicating is a challenge. Some individuals love to talk, and others would prefer to keep silent. Men and women think differently and often communicate differently. We need to work together to accomplish our personal and family goals, regardless of our personal differences.

Early on in my marriage I learned an important lesson about communication. We were driving through a very large city and we got in some disagreement. I got mad and said “Stop the car, I want to get out.” My wife always so kind and polite, stopped the car. I got out, slammed the door, and started walking. And then I realized where I was, one of the most dangerous places of that city. My wife, ever the kind one, drove about a half mile away and stopped the car and waited. By the time I got there, I had cooled down and was ready to talk. I learned something very important: if you’re not in the same place, you can’t talk!

The reason why money can be such an issue in marriage is because we don’t talk about it. We think that we shouldn’t have to talk about it, that our spouse thinks like we do, and was brought up exact the same as we were. But the truth is we all think differently, have different goals, were brought up different and so we MUST talk about it. Remember the important lessons that the Lord’s trying to teach us through personal finance: understanding, patience, sacrifice, planning, follow through—the list goes on and on.

So top three reasons are poor communication, poor communication, and poor communication. A general lack of knowledge, financial personalities and family baggage, and lack of shared financial goals are also other reasons.

### **Weekly Stewardship Meeting**

It’s important to discuss finances early and often. I encourage people to set a time every week where they can discuss their finances. Ours is usually Sunday night at 9:00 pm. That’s the best time for us to sit and review our budget and talk about what’s going on financially.

You need to set goals together as well. What do you want to accomplish? It’s important for you to know each other’s goals so you can help each other achieve them. I have found that when I help my spouse achieve her goals, we both benefit.

My wife was born in Alton, Illinois just outside St. Louis. When she was 12, she was in the very first “City of Joseph” pageant at the St. Louis Stake. As we were talking, she said “You know, I’d really like to be in another one of those church pageants”. Later that year we came to BYU and I actually had a little bit of my summer free and so we applied and were accepted to participate in the pageant in Nauvoo. Ever since then, we’ve been in five different pageants for the church. In fact last year they called us to be on the staff for the Nauvoo Pageant. Over the next five years for the first three weeks of July, our family will be working in Nauvoo. And the reason I think my kids are good missionaries is that from the time they were three or four years old, they’ve been out at Nauvoo talking to people and trying to be good missionaries.

You need to talk about and discuss what are the things you each want to accomplish? What are you trying to do with your family? What are you trying to teach and do with your kids? What you want to do is implement a way to help you communicate better, because there is nothing

harder than talking about money. And if we can talk about money freely, we can talk about almost anything. Ideally, before you talk about money, have a prayer and pray that you can have the Spirit with you. That way there are three people in the discussion instead of just two.

### **Family Baggage and Personality Types**

We all have family baggage. Family baggage is a term for how we were brought up. What family rules, explicit or implicit, shaped the way you look at things, at finances, at life? I come from a family of six boys and one girl, now I've got six daughters and one son. But my wife was raised in a different family that looks at things differently. While we cannot change the way we were brought up, we can change how we're going to raise our children. Make it a conscious choice.

And so the key is to realize how each of you were brought up, and then determine how you will manage your finances and life going forward.

There are different attitudes toward finance. With the "miser," the dad paid cash for everything, her mom paid the bills and kept the books, the family never talked about money. The "spender" felt that things would always work out and so they would always spend--if the shoe fits, buy it in every color! And the "sleeper" felt that paying tithing was like paying guaranteed income insurance, and that we're good people so nothing bad will happen to us.

This is not the way it works. Did the Lord work this way when he created the earth? Think about the process of creation. We really can't create our own little worlds here, but what can we do to teach us some of the same traits? Is setting goals and then accomplishing them a spiritual and then physical creation? How about living on budgets, is that a spiritual and then physical creation? Think about the things Heavenly Father is trying to teach us.

### **Set a Communications Goal: Financial Priority 1**

Get a copy of the Eight Financial Priorities. Think about possible goals in this area. Most importantly, determine a time when you could have your weekly stewardship meeting. If your spouse is here, talk about what goals could you set? And I'd like you all to set at least one goal in this area. Spend two minutes and write down at least one communication goal.

I would like to add one piece of advice after 28 years of being married. That is always assume your spouse is doing their very best they can (and you are as well), and remember that you are equal partners in the marriage.

## **4. Budget Well**

A prophet said: "Every family should have a "\_\_\_\_". Why, we would not think of going one day without a "\_\_\_\_" in this Church or our businesses... And one of the successes of the church would have to be that the brethren watch these things very carefully, and we do not spend that which we do not have".<sup>xxxvi</sup>

What's word should be put in the blanks? It is the word budget.

## **The Old versus the Better Way**

When we teach budgeting, we teach it in a different way. The old way to budget was this. Take your income minus your tithing minus your expenses, which gives you what is available for savings. What's wrong with this "old" way of budgeting? There's never anything left at the end of savings!

Now, we teach a better way which is this. Now we have income you pay the Lord first, then you pay yourself second (and that money goes towards your long-term goals), and then you pay your expenses, and anything left after that is your savings as well. Now we've got twice the chance of achieving your goals. Why do we pay the Lord first? Isn't it all His (remember ownership, stewardship and accountability)? It is. It's all His.

## **Pay the Lord First**

By paying the Lord first, we are putting Him first and showing that we love Him more than money. We show that we're being obedient and believe the promise: "I, the Lord, am bound when you do what I say; but if ye do not what I say, ye have no promise".<sup>xxxvii</sup> Do we want the Lord bound to us? The answer is yes.

## **Pay the Lord First Goal: Financial Priority 2**

Grab your copy of the Eight Financial Priorities you used earlier. Think about possible goals in this area. Spend two minutes to talk with your spouse about what goal will you have here with tithes and offerings? Examples are provided on the sheet.

What goal would you have? The scriptures say that we're required to pay a tithing of ten percent. How about fast offering? Is it the same thought there? Are we under a covenantal obligation to take care of the Lord's poor?<sup>xxxviii</sup> And I think the answer is yes, the latter. So let's take a couple more minutes, let you write a goal there. What goal would you have? For most of you it's a goal you already live. Okay, let's continue on with budgeting!

## **Budgeting – A Team Approach**

Budgeting is the single most critical exercise to help you accomplish your financial goal. And to do that well, you need to use a team approach. Identify your current spending, work together to create your first budget. And then track spending against them. Create your second budget and track spending against it. And then communicate daily and then weekly and then perhaps monthly.

There's lots of different ways to budget. My wife's and my budget, we would pay the Lord first, ourselves second, and then we lived on the rest. It wasn't really detailed but it got the job done.

While there are different types of budgets, the key principle is to live on less than you make and save for your personal and family goals. Some people are good at being very detailed on the

budget and other people are good at give me any amount of money and I'll live with it. The key is to do whatever works for you and your spouse. The only budget I don't like is called the denial method; you do nothing and hope it works out (DNAH-ial).

### **The Envelope System**

When couples first start to develop a budget it is important for them to first understand the others spouses needs and wants. An excellent way to do this is to use the envelope system, which is a tried and true method of budgeting. Her is how it works. Label one envelope for each type of expenses (clothes, food, rent, etc.). Put receipts (or paper notes) for everything you spend in the correct envelope for one calendar month. Together with your spouse at month-end, empty each envelope and discuss what you spent. Prepare another set of envelopes, and this time writhe the amount you have decided to spend next month on the outside. Next month try to stick with your spending limit. If you overspend in one category, discuss what is reasonable and revise the spending amount. Repeat this process for several months if necessary, until you agree where you month should be spent and learn how to spend within your means.

I can't stress enough how important it is to begin with a solid understanding of you spouses needs and wants, and a total picture of all household expenses. Couples sometimes fail at budgeting because they don't spend enough time in this understanding and discussion process at the outset. Remember to have your financial goals clearly in mind and in front of you when you start to develop your first budget.

### **The 12 Month Budget**

The twelve month budget is important because it helps you to see longer-term expenses: birthdays, quarterly payments of insurance or other bills, automobile maintenance vacations, holidays, etc. You need to estimate for this spending. The 12 month budget allows you to figure out when do the irregular payments come and then plan accordingly.

### **Budgeting Tips**

Here are a few tips that may be helpful.

First, don't drive each other nuts. Realize that you are different people with different backgrounds and habits. Work to find and concentrate on expenses that need to be controlled.

Second, remember you are equal partners. Always assume you both are trying to do the best job you can and work accordingly. Follow the example of the Savior who "doeth not anything save it be for the benefit of the world; for he loveth the world."<sup>xxxix</sup> When you discuss finances, realize that your are equal partners in your finances. Remember that just because men hold the priesthood does that mean they get to make the decisions? There's a common word for that in the scriptures called "unrighteous dominion."<sup>xl</sup> We are equal partners with our spouses.

Watch for ATM leakage. Those diet sodas once a day, the Jamba Juice twice a week, and the extra popcorn each week can add up over a lifetime and are often hard to track. Write more

checks instead of paying cash, use online banking and debit cards for better recording of expenses, and record your credit and debit card transactions in your check register if it becomes necessary in your tracking of your expenses.

Financial software can be a big help, and some of it is free. Mint.com and Mvelopes are both free programs that can help when used properly. Some banks also have free financial software for their customers. Quicken is also an excellent tool. Most of these tools link to your bank, brokerage accounts, and credit cards. So on Sundays before I sit down with my wife, I push a button and Quicken brings in all my accounts, all the brokerage, all the checks, all the credit cards, and all of these things here. And then we go through and accept and categorize every single one, so in 30-45 minutes we know where we are financially.

The whole key here is make saving easier. Have your savings automatically come out of your checking account each month, have a hundred dollars every month go to your favorite mutual fund account. Make spending hard. So, that's kind of the key.

### **Set a Budget Now Goal: Financial Priority 3**

Grab your copy of the Eight Financial Priorities you used earlier. Think about possible goals in the budgeting. Spend two minutes to talk with your spouse about what goal will you have here with tithes and offerings? Examples are provided on the sheet. I'd like you to spend a couple minutes, what goals will help you to do better with your budget and to live on less than you make? If you walk out of here with no goals, the night will have been worthless. But if you walk out of here with at least one or two or three goals in a couple of these areas, tonight can be a very supportive night for you.

### **Summary**

So in summary, we've talked about important things.

We've talked about financial perspectives. Personal finance is simply a part of the gospel of Jesus Christ, part of being Christian. There are four important reasons why the Lord wants us to learn personal finance: to bring us to Christ, to help us accomplish our divine missions that each of us have here on earth, to help us return with our families back to His presence, and to help us be wiser financial stewards. We talked about the principles on which that perspective is based, which is ownership, everything is the Lord's; stewardship, we are stewards over all the things we have been blessed with and are; and accountability, we will be held accountable for every thought, action, deed, and dollar that we do or spend.

We talked about setting goals and priorities. There are eight goals we think every family should understand and work towards. They are communicate clearly, pay the Lord first, learn to manage money and use a budget, avoid and pay off debt, prepare for emergencies and build a reserve (3-6 months), protect yourself and family through adequate insurance, save wisely for long-term goals including: home, education, retirement and missions, and teach family members these things. There are other things that are important, but these eight priorities are an important start.

Communicate clearly. It is very easy to not understand or misunderstand. It is critical that you set aside time each week to discuss your finances as a couple at your weekly stewardship meeting. Make it a consistent date and time, i.e., Friday at 6 pm just before your weekly date (make that a consistent date and time as well). Remember we all have been brought up differently and we cannot change that. We can, however, change how you will raise your children.

Budget well, and remember that every family should have a budget. But budget the better way, where you pay the Lord first, pay yourself second, and then live on the rest. That way you have twice the chance of accomplishing your savings goals. Remember that when we pay the Lord first, we show that we love God more than we love the things of this world. And we have faith that He will help us accomplish the things we need to accomplish. Then we start budgeting, we start slow, we identify current spending, we draft our first budget, we track spending, and then we revise our budget together. And if things don't work as they should, you can use the envelope system.

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<sup>i</sup> David A. Bednar “Teach them to Understand,” Ricks College Campus Education Week Devotional, June 4, 1998, Rexburg, Idaho.

<sup>ii</sup> 1 Corinthians 13:4-8.

<sup>iii</sup> Moroni 10:32

<sup>iv</sup> Matthew 6:33

<sup>v</sup> Mark 12:30

<sup>vi</sup> Mosiah 2:17

<sup>vii</sup> 1 Nephi 3:7

<sup>viii</sup> Luke 6:38

<sup>ix</sup> Mosiah 4:10

<sup>x</sup> C. Max Caldwell, “What Think Ye of Christ?” *Ensign*, Feb 1984.

<sup>xi</sup> All is Safely Gathered In: Family Finances pamphlet, “Message from the First Presidency”, Intellectual Reserve, 2007.

<sup>xii</sup> Matthew 11:29

<sup>xiii</sup> Doctrine and Covenants 58:27

<sup>xiv</sup> D&C 98:3

<sup>xv</sup> D&C 101:65

<sup>xvi</sup> Luke 14:28-30

<sup>xvii</sup> Moroni 10:32

<sup>xviii</sup> Matthew 6:33

<sup>xix</sup> Italics added, Gene R. Cook, “Trust in the Lord”, *Ensign*, Mar. 1986.

<sup>xx</sup> Gordon B. Hinckley, “Proclamation on the Family”, General Relief Society Meeting, Sept. 23, 1995.

<sup>xxi</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>xxii</sup> Psalms 127:3

<sup>xxiii</sup> Proclamation on the Family, Sept 23, 1995

<sup>xxiv</sup> D&C 68:25-28

<sup>xxv</sup> Matthew 6:33

<sup>xxvi</sup> Quoted from J. E. McCulloch, “Home: The Savior of Civilization” (1924), 42; in Conference Report, Apr. 1935, 116.

<sup>xxvii</sup> Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Harold B. Lee [2000], 134.

<sup>xxviii</sup> Joe J. Christensen, “Greed, Selfishness, and Overindulgence,” *Ensign*, May 1999.

<sup>xxix</sup> Spencer W. Kimball, Conference Report, April 1975, pp. 166-167.

<sup>xxx</sup> Psalms 24:1

<sup>xxxi</sup> D&C 104:13

<sup>xxxii</sup> 1 Nephi 3:7

<sup>xxxiii</sup> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fC7pPAyrSSg>

<sup>xxxiv</sup> I recommend you print off a copy of the sheet “Eight Financial Priorities” and you work on this sheet as you go through this series of lessons.

<sup>xxxv</sup> See the Berlitz language video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Vn9OwDjgQ>.

<sup>xxxvi</sup> Spencer W. Kimball, Conference Address, April 1975.

<sup>xxxvii</sup> D&C 82:10

<sup>xxxviii</sup> Marion G. Romney, “Caring for the Poor—A Covenantal Obligation,” Conference Reports, October 1978.

<sup>xxxix</sup> 2 Nephi 26:24

<sup>xl</sup> D&C 121:34-46