

Women & More

‘Wisdom’ Watches Her Spending

1 March 2012

Learn to record and manage spending, because it will affect your relationship with God.

“Resist buying things just because you can afford them. The amount we earn has nothing to do with what we need.”

Ronald J. Sider

Prepare by Soaking in Scripture:

Leviticus 19:11

Proverbs 3:27-28

Proverbs 12:15

Philippians 4:11-13

Colossians 3:23-24

Scripture to Memorize:

Matthew 25:21 *“Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!”*

NOTES on Speaking Session:

Questions for Mentor-group Discussion:

1. What is your perspective on how much effort we are to put into our work? When is it most difficult to give your best effort in working?
2. How do you suppose integrity influences situations? Can you give an example from your own life?
3. What do you feel about debt? Who would you go to for counsel if you had a difficult or challenging financial decision to make?

Recommended Reading:

Winning God's Way, Loren Cunningham

You Can Be Financially Free, George Fooshee

Recording Your Income and Expenses

To help you determine accurately how you are actually *earning* (**Income**) and *spending* (**Expense**), you must begin to write this information down in one place.

Preparing the *Income and Expense Worksheet* is a necessary step to setting up a budget. It may seem like a pain to record things on paper, but it's still the best way to see for yourself what you are actually earning and spending. You have to know this before you start to budget. Trying to put a budget together without this information would be like putting a puzzle together without half of the pieces. You might get something that looks like a picture when you're done, but it will have a lot of holes in it. Don't try to operate on guesswork; you'll be wasting your time.

You may feel that a budget will lock you into a rigid system, costing you freedom and hours of mind-bending calculations. This is not the case, however, because when understood and used properly, a budget will be one of your sources of good advice.

So, choose a time every day to enter whatever income you received or whatever you spend on the *Income and Expense Worksheet*. Perhaps you should carry something with you when you are away from home to record any transaction and then copy it to your worksheet later. And use a pencil in case you need to make a correction.

The *Income and Expense Worksheet* is designed with five columns. Use one row for each transaction. Include the following information:

Date: Enter the date (day & month) that the income is received or expenditure is made.

Description: Describe the source of income or how the money was spent.

Income: Write in the amount of income received, or

Expense: Write in the amount of the expense made.

Balance: At the end of each row the balance column should be filled in. Begin your worksheet by calculating the total amount of money you have available to you on the date you begin this worksheet.

The worksheet page can be photocopied and put in a notebook on loose sheets of paper, or you may buy a book similar to this that already has the columns printed in it. It is often referred to as a *Cash Book*. If you're fortunate enough to own a *Palm Pilot* with an income and expense program, that would be great.

In most situations it is helpful to keep track of your finances on a monthly basis. Many people receive their income once a month. And even if you receive income on a weekly or daily basis you may find that many important items of expenditure occur monthly, e.g. rent, utilities, loan payments, etc. Reviewing your finances on a monthly basis, therefore, tends to provide consistent information that can be compared from one month to the next.

Financial Goals Worksheet

Date: _____

Goal For Income This Year: _____

Giving Goals:

Would like to give _____ percent of my/our income.

Other giving goals:

Debt Repayment Goals:

Would like to pay off the following debts first:

Creditor:	Amount:
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Savings Goals:

Would like to save _____ percent of my/our income.

Other savings goals:

GOAL FOR THIS YEAR

I believe the Lord wants me/us to achieve the following goals this year:

Priority	Financial Goals	Our Part	God's Part
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

The Seeds of Evil: Rise of Hitler

German Economy 1919-1923

Exchange rates: 1US\$ value in German Marks

Start:	(tens)		
1) Jan 1918	\$5.21	11) Mar 1923	\$21,190.00
2) Jan 1919	8.20	12) Apr 1923	24,475.00
3) Jan 1920	64.80	13) May 1923	47,670.00
4) Jan 1921	64.91	14) June 1923	109,966.00
5) Jan 1922	(hundreds) 191.81	15) July 1923	353,412.00
6) Apr 1922	291.00	16) Aug 1923	(millions) 4,620,455.00
7) July 1922	493.22	17) Sept 1923	98,860,000.00
8) Oct 1922	(thousands) 3,180.96	18) Oct 1923	(billions) 25,260,000,000.00
9) Jan 1923	17,972.00	19) Nov 1923	(trillions) 2,193,600,000,000.00
10) Feb 1923	27,918.00	20) Dec 1923	Ending: 4,200,000,000,000.00

• **How the economic crisis aided the Nazi party:** Ready, set, go...and woe!

The 1923 topping out at 4 trillion Marks to 1 US dollar, led to rifts in the German government, and coalition governments struggled to agree on a suitable course of action. The result was that the democratic process fell into decline. While parts of Germany were in a state of emergency, there were many strikes, fueling a fear of Communism amongst the middle classes, who turned to the right for support they didn't get. This posed an ideal opportunity to challenge the government, and in case of the Nazis, this was to happen as part of a coordinated attack on democracy...the Second Reich!

(Google **German Mark in 1919**, and click on: German Economy 1919-1923.)

Morning and Evening
Daily Readings by C. H. Spurgeon
February 28, 2012

*“For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry,
in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah”*

1 Kings 17:16

“See the faithfulness of divine love. You observe that this woman had *daily necessities*. She had herself and her son to feed in a time of famine; and now, in addition, the prophet Elijah was to be fed too. But though the need was threefold, yet the supply of meal wasted not, for she had a *constant supply*. Each day she made calls upon the barrel, but yet each day it remained the same.

“You, dear reader, have daily necessities, and because they come so frequently, you are apt to feel that the barrel of meal will one day be empty, and the cruse of oil will fail you. Rest assured that, according to the Word of God, this shall not be the case. **Each day, though it brings its trouble, shall bring its help;** and though you should live to outnumber the years of Methuselah, and though your needs should be as many as the sands of the seashore, **yet shall God’s grace and mercy last through all your necessities, and you shall never know a real lack.**

“For three long years, in this widow’s days, the heavens never saw a cloud, and the stars never wept a holy tear of dew upon the wicked earth: famine and desolation, and death, made the land a howling wilderness, but this woman never was hungry, but always joyful in abundance. So shall it be with you. You shall see the sinner’s hope perish, for he trusts his native strength; you shall see the proud Pharisee’s confidence totter, for he builds his hope upon the sand; you shall see even your own schemes blasted and withered, but you yourself shall find that your place of defense shall be the munition of rocks: ‘Your bread shall be given you, and your water shall be sure’.

“Better have God for your guardian, than the Bank of England for your possession. You might spend the wealth of the Indies, but the infinite riches of God you can never exhaust.”