



# Personal Finances

Earning, Saving, Giving and Spending



# EARNING

## **Training Required for Work**

- ▶ Will you need to go to 2 or 4 years of college or more? Is no college needed?
- ▶ Look over the classes required for your major.
- ▶ Talk to some students in that major.
- ▶ Talk to some people working in that field.
- ▶ Can you work during college and avoid student loans? Will your employer pay for your college?



# EARNING

## **Training Required for Work**

- Can you get a part-time job or internship in your field as you prepare?
- If not a job, can you shadow someone for a few days and watch what they do?
- Does your college provide internships as part of your major?
- Can you take classes online while you work at another job?



# EARNING

**What are your other options for training and employment?**

- ▶ Military Service – salary, free education
- ▶ Self-Employment – what kind of training, apprenticeship and experience can you get instead of college to learn your craft?
- ▶ On-the-job training by an employer
- ▶ Management training by an employer



# EARNING

## Successful Job Interviews

- ▶ How many ways can you network with people and companies in order to find out about job openings and ask for an interview?
- ▶ Read tips about interview preparation.
- ▶ Have someone help you practice.
- ▶ Make sure your application and resume has no errors. Be truthful.



# EARNING

## Successful Job Interviews

- Get there early.
- Get a haircut, shave, dress nicely.
- Prepare some questions you will ask about the job culture, expectations and how to be successful.
- Study the company so you know what they do and what your position does.
- Have good eye contact as you talk.



# EARNING

## **Success In Your Career**

- Get all the training you can.
- Ask lots of questions. Read. Observe.
- Get to work early. Don't waste your time or the time of others.
- Be prepared. Be organized. Have integrity.
- Make a do-list for the day of your projects.
- A lot of your success will be about your ability to have good relationships.



# EARNING

## Success In Your Career

- ▶ Make it your goal to deeply understand the needs of your customers.
- ▶ Listen to your customers and ask questions.
- ▶ Try to understand your customer's point of view. How can you help them be successful?
- ▶ What is success in the eyes of your employer? What will help you to receive the best evaluation for the work you do?





# SAVING

- Understand the *why* of saving. The way it will help you achieve your goals for a house, a car, a vacation, college or retirement. How it will reduce your stress.
- Make a *plan* to save a certain amount or a certain percentage of what you earn. Many experts recommend trying to save between 10% and 20% of what you earn every year.
- Make it automatic and monthly.



# SAVING

## **The Importance of the Emergency Fund**

- There are many times when larger than usual expenses will come up – a car repair, a new tire, an insurance payment, a medical expense, Christmas or a plane fare.
- What if you lost your job?
- In order to pay bills and avoid taking on debt, you need an emergency fund.



# SAVING

- There are many, many companies where you can open an account for your emergency fund, mutual fund, or IRA.
- Do some research and find a big one that's been around 35 years or more, one with a good reputation, lots of options for funds and low fees on their mutual funds. The big funds have billions under management.
- Look for no-load, no upfront or exit fees.



# SAVING

## Options for Where To Put Your Savings

- ▶ Checking or Bank Savings Account
- ▶ Emergency Fund (4-6 months of salary usually suggested)
- ▶ An investment account you set up (a mutual fund or individual stocks)
- ▶ Work retirement fund that your employer and you can contribute to.
- ▶ Roth IRA fund that you set up
- ▶ Traditional IRA fund that you set up



# SAVING

## Savings Grow Over The Years

- ▶ As you add to your savings it will grow from what you deposit and from the growth of the stocks and dividends in your mutual fund (like an S&P500 Index fund)
- ▶ The sooner you start the more years it will have to grow and the larger it will become.
- ▶ When the stock market is down, you get to buy shares at a cheaper price.



# GIVING

- **Prov 11:25** “A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.”
- **Prov 3:9** “Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops.”
- **Prov 3:27** “Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act.”



## GIVING

- **2 Cor 9:7** “Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”
- **Romans 12:8,13** “contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously... Share with God’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.”
- **Heb 13:16** “And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”



## GIVING

- **Psa 37:21** “The wicked borrow and do not repay, but the righteous give generously.”
- **Mt 10:8** “Freely you have received; freely give.”
- **Mt 6:3** “But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret.”
- **Acts 20:35** “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”





# GIVING

- ▶ **I Cor 16:2** “On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income ... send them with your gift.”
- ▶ **I Tim 6:9** “People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.”
- ▶ **I Tim 6:17-18** “Command those who are rich in this present world ... to put their hope in God ... to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.”



# GIVING

We all give to many things:

- ▶ Starbucks, DQ and Dominoes. Netflix, Disney, Hulu, Prime and ESPN. AMC, Redbox, Apple and golf courses.
- ▶ We give to the things that are meaningful to us and we believe make life better.
- ▶ We give to the local church, local and international missions because we believe in the Biblical directive of gospel ministry, education and helping the poor. We love seeing God change lives.



## SPENDING

- ▶ Live within your means. Spend less than you earn. Adjust your living expenses like housing, furniture, food, clothing, vehicles, exercise and entertainment.
- ▶ When you start out in your 20's, you won't have what your parents have now. They worked and saved a long time to afford their house or that vacation trip.
- ▶ Avoid debt by cutting expenses and adding extra income if needed.



## SPENDING

- ▶ Don't base your self-esteem on things or relationships instead of who you are in Christ and that you are loved, gifted, and here for a purpose.
- ▶ A bigger cost for a house, car, clothes or jewelry does not satisfy. They don't last. They don't fulfill our purpose in life. They don't make us more loved by God or others. They don't determine whether we love God, love others and are filled with the Spirit. They aren't the legacy we want.



# SPENDING

- On average, the largest expenses for Americans are housing, vehicles, medical insurance, food, and debt repayment.
- Can you buy or rent a more affordable house or apartment?
- Can you buy a slightly older car for cash?
- Can you eat at home more?
- Can you eliminate and avoid all debt?

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## SPENDING

- The hamburger, steak, pizza or chicken that you cook at home will be half the price of what you pay at a restaurant.
- The prices for food at Walmart might be less than more expensive grocery stores.
- The price for clothes will be less at the end of a season or on sale than at full price.
- Amazon might be cheaper but ask a local store if they will match the price.

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## SPENDING

- ▶ Some of what we spend is impulse-buying. Make a list of what you need.
- ▶ Some of the things we spend money on actually aren't good for our health. Try to avoid sweet tea, soft drinks, frozen dinners, cookies, crackers, cakes, pies, chips, candy and white bread.
- ▶ Instead: fish, lean meat, vegetables, & fruit.