

simplicity, generosity, and joy

Tools you can use



Resources for Developing Your Spending Plan

Set Financial Goals:

- Short term (next 12 months)
- Mid-range: (two to five years)
- Long-range: (five years to retirement)

Crown Financial Ministries offers lots of free resources for helping you think about budgeting and financial freedom. You may particularly want to check out:

- www.crown.org/Tools/Calculators/Budgeting_SpendingPlan.asp
- www.crowncanada.ca/resources/CrownSpendingPlan2.pdf

Percentage Budget Planning Guide:

<i>Item</i>	<i>Actual %</i>	<i>Suggested %</i>	<i>2009 Plan</i>
Charitable Gifts		10 -12%	
Saving		5 -10%	
Housing		25 -35%	
Utilities		5 -10%	
Food		5 -15%	
Transportation		10 -15%	
Clothing		2 -7%	
Medical/Health		5 -10%	
Personal		5 -10%	
Recreation		5 -10%	
Debt		5 -10%	
Other		2 -3%	



Getting Out of Debt

Debt reduction schemes have become big business, and many deliver far less than they promise. One that is effective is Consumer Credit Counseling. They can be found on the web at:

- www.moneymanagement.org
- they will help you set up a workable budget, offer counseling in regard to home purchases, and, for a modest fee, set up a debt reduction plan. They can often get your interest rates

reduced so you can make headway on credit card debt and medical expenses.

Another Web-based resource with a good deal of free resources is Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University:

www.daveramsey.com/
see "The Truth About" section on the home page



Scripture References on Wisdom and Finances

Proverbs 21:5 and 21:20

Luke 12:33-34

1 Timothy 6:17-19

Proverbs 3:9 and 23:4-5

Malachi 3:8-10

Matthew 6:24



Six Key Financial Principles with Scripture References

1. Put God first in your living and giving. *II Corinthians 9:6-7*
2. Prepare a spending plan and track all expenses monthly. *Proverbs 27:23-24*
3. Simplify your lifestyle, live below your means. *Matthew 6:19-33*
4. Provide immediately for an emergency fund. *1 Timothy 6:9-12*
5. Pay off all credit card debt and use cash not credit cards. *Proverbs 22:7*
6. Practice long-range saving and investing habits. *Luke 14:28*