



# CHURCH AND FAMILY BUDGETING

Rick Schneider

## INTRODUCTION

Many pastors struggle with understanding what a budget is and how it works. Most pastors are not experienced in the business world, with little or no training in how to deal with finances, insurance, debt, and all of the other various financial responsibilities of a church.

One thing we must remember, we aren't \_\_\_\_\_, we are \_\_\_\_\_!

### I. WHO NEEDS A BUDGET?

A. \_\_\_\_\_! (Luke 14:28-30)

B. It is an important step in being a good \_\_\_\_\_ of God's money. (Luke 12)

### II. WHY HAVE AN ANNUAL CHURCH BUDGET?

A. So you may know how much income your church will need for the coming year, and thereby eliminate a \_\_\_\_\_ approach to church financing.

B. It can be a great tool in aiding for your \_\_\_\_\_ planning. (Proverbs 29:18a)

1. It is one step in your strategic planning.

2. It should be driven by your church's \_\_\_\_\_! (Mark 16:15; 1 Cor. 10:31)

3. It also provides \_\_\_\_\_ for expenditures.

### III. HOW DOES THE CHURCH BUDGETING PROCESS WORK? (PROVERBS 24:6)

A. Determine who needs to be involved. (Pastor, Deacons, Church Treasurer, etc.)

B. Once finalized, get the Church's \_\_\_\_\_.

“An informed church is a happy church.”

C. Determine who “administers” the budget.

### IV. HOW DO YOU MAKE A CHURCH BUDGET?

A. \_\_\_\_\_ performance is helpful to show “budget” verses “actual”.

B. You need to understand the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for the future.

C. Certain costs are fixed such as a \_\_\_\_\_ and other loan payments.

D. Determine what you are going to pay in \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Timothy 5:18)

“Our Pastors should not be expected to live by more faith than we do!”

E. From prior year's expenses, estimate additional costs due to changes in usage and or rate increases.

- Utilities
- Insurances

F. Ask yourself: "What do we really \_\_\_\_\_?"

- What repairs are necessary?
- What \_\_\_\_\_ needs to be purchased?
- What new \_\_\_\_\_ are we looking to get involved in?

G. Total up all of the "needs" and "wants" and see how it compares to what you are currently receiving on a weekly basis. Is it \_\_\_\_\_?

H. When it's all done, present it to your church for their approval.

\*\* See Local Church Budget Worksheet

## V. FAMILY BUDGETING: STEPS TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM.

A. Transfer \_\_\_\_\_. (Psalm 24:1; Haggai 2:8)

B. Become \_\_\_\_\_ free! (Proverbs 22:7) Debt explained:

Payment is past due for money, goods, or services that are owed to other people.

The total value of unsecured liabilities exceeds total assets. In other words, if you had to cash out at any time, there would be a negative balance in your account.

Your family's basic needs are not being met, producing anxiety in the area of financial responsibility.

## FIVE STEPS TO BECOMING FREE FROM DEBT

### STEP #1

Have a \_\_\_\_\_ plan. "Failing to plan is planning to fail."

- "Needs": Purchases necessary to provide basic requirements. (1 Timothy 6:8)
- "Wants": This involves \_\_\_\_\_ about the quality of things we buy.
- "Desires": These are choices according to God's plan that can be made only out of \_\_\_\_\_ funds after all other obligations have been met.

### STEP #2

Determine your absolute essentials for living. (Proverbs 21:17)

### STEP #3

\_\_\_\_\_ before buying. (Proverbs 24:3)

- Is it a necessity?
- Is this the right time? Price? Impulse?
- Is it a highly depreciative item? Will it lose its value quickly?
- Does it require costly upkeep?

#### STEP #4

Discontinue buying on \_\_\_\_\_. Commit to buying solely on a cash basis.

#### STEP #5

Practice \_\_\_\_\_! (Proverbs 21:20)

Establish the \_\_\_\_\_. (Malachi 3:8-10)

Accept God's \_\_\_\_\_. (Philippians 4:11; 1 Timothy 6:6-8)

Keep a clear conscience. (Romans 13:8)

Keep God \_\_\_\_\_! (Matthew 6:33)

Do not neglect your \_\_\_\_\_! (Proverbs 23:4-5)

Seek godly counsel. (Proverbs 15:22)

\*\* See How to set up a Family Budget

\*\* See Steps to making a Family Budget