

# Render My Money 2021 – Session 2

Sermon Title: **Render My Money 2021 - Session 2**

Sermon Number: **4524**

Speaker: **Gerald Render**

Link to sermon audio - <http://www.theonlineword.com/mp3/4524.mp3>

Link to sermon video - <http://theark.s3.amazonaws.com/vid/4524.mp4>



[BrothersofTheWord.com](http://BrothersofTheWord.com)

Gerald Render: You have to be direct in what you want because if you don't know what you want, you end up with anything.

Female: You are listening to brothersoftheword.com. This is Session 2 of the "Render My Money 2021" series by Gerald Render. This message is number 4524.

(Music Playing: 00:00:14 - 00:00:26)

And now for "Render My Money 2021 – Session 2."

Gerald Render Good evening. I want to welcome everyone to our second series of the Render My Money Financial Class. Last month, we discussed God's will for our finances. We also discussed preparing the financial vision and I want to leave up because that's one of the assignments that I gave was to create a financial vision. How many people just by your short hands create a financial for themselves? Great. Okay. Well, one of the reason I want to make sure this is one of the tools that's really not overlooked by anyone is because the financial vision is one of the most important parts of our financial journey, because the financial vision would tell the universe and also related to tell God what it is exactly we want.

Now, have you ever noticed if you haven't tried to bless someone and you posed the question, what do you want? Like if you're trying to go to eat and you get what do you want to eat? I don't know. It's really hard and this is a universal principle. It's not just a biblical principle because even if you look in the bible, God always use a positive direction. Let there be light. Be healed. Get up and take up your bed and walk. You have to be direct in what you want and it's the first part, because if you don't know what you want, you end with anything and this tool is one of the most crucial tools that people forget about because they don't write it down and they don't take it seriously.

So, pull up slide two. I want to make sure and for those to have a goal to be one of the top three students, this is one of things that have to be in my email. Anybody know my email? Nobody? Everybody? It's [archrendermymoney@gmail.com](mailto:archrendermymoney@gmail.com). You need to have about 12:00 a.m. because excellence is obedience and this is the first part of the discipline of getting your finances in order. So, when you look at this, this is the financial vision that I made up. It was part of my personal financial vision, but it is also just

one I made up, and what's important about a financial vision? It's not just where you want to go, it's also supposed to tell a lot about, what you care about, and who you are as a person including that financial vision. There should be goals that align with what you think, and you can always change it. You can tweak it a little bit, but the things you think that will allow you to align with to reach your financial vision.

So, if you read this, when it says my first point was to live a healthy and well-balanced life that is pleasing to God. That's really about who I am. I always want to be balanced and never want to be too hot, too low. Balance is great for me. That was the first one. I also want to provide a happy, loving home for my family in a safe community. That's one of the things when I was getting married was really important to me when I was selecting a wife. Could I have a peaceful home? That was more important to me than how well she looked. I did get a pretty wife though. The third thing was to be a good steward over my finances and to help people understand good financial stewardship.

See? knowledge is one thing, but the wisdom is the applied knowledge and a lot of times you will find even if you look back over life is not so much you didn't know what to do because everybody heard the saying save for a rainy day. Don't spend all your money, know when to cut bait. All those things are really the basis of strong financial stewardship. I wanted to be free from financial slavery, debt and the need to consume products, and that's the key one. That is a key one because I was a person and I told a story -- I was a person who was really -- and when I was younger, I really like to consume products. I've told that story before. I bought a new car, take it right off the showroom floor and drove it and put a \$4,000 kit on it, new rims and everything, hand painted my first note, but the revelation of how that did not help my finances and my mother explained it to me and called me a big dummy because she said if you had taken that money and put it towards the car, you could have paid it all and the car would be a lot cheaper. That's the slave. Well, people say "I can't help it." Well, people say "I deserve it" anytime I'm making a purchase.

If it's a purchase you really can't afford, you have been controlled by your money. You're not controlling your money. You've been controlled by your money and credit and your emotions, and that's one of the first things that you have to understand because once

we start going through this budget, it's not so much income that's the issue, but we've all heard the stories. We have our own lives, times that we got big lump sum of money. I remember I used to work and we used to get bonuses every month. It was amazing.

00:05:00

End of the month, I'd never could see my bonus. It's not like it was extra money. It was not my regular salary, but I had no budget. It's just like when you go from high school to college. In high school, you have a regimented time. You have to be everywhere and you're like "Man, I got to be at first period, second period." It is also regimen, and then when you get to college, you may have two classes a day, but what happens to the time if you're not managing your time? The first thing they teach you in college is time management and that's the lesson you should always learn and keep with you because that's the most valuable asset you have which is time

Another was to be a positive example of high character and why I say an example is because for my family and from people who ever came in contact with me, I want my actions to exemplify character, whether it was somebody I knew or didn't know or whether I was by myself. Character is one of the key things I found that allows you to stay in the favor of God when you have the character price because God knows your heart, and that's why this money and again your finances, the thing we talked about last month was God is more concerned with your attitude about money. You cannot take it for granted, that just because you have relation with God and just because you're a good person that your attitude won't change if you have not taken a diligent effort to always separate your true character from any type of stuff. Stuff cannot be what the term is your happiness because you're in for a sad, sad plateau. I mean, you are really crash and burn when you think stuff is going to make you happy. It is peace and peace is God.

One of the last one is to have the financial ability to choose the work in nine to five. I never said I was going to stop working, but the ability to choose is what you want and that's really in accordance with a well-balanced life. Listen, if you don't use it, you lose it. So, even if you don't use your talents, you will lose it. We talked about the parable that Jesus talked about the three talents and the five talents into one talent. The whole purpose of

that parable is you must use what God has given us the ability to do, and you can't get caught up with your mistakes. So, you write this down, don't get discouraged if you feel like it's late in life for you. The only thing you have is right now. You don't have tomorrow and you can't do nothing about yesterday. The only thing you have is right now.

So, those who speak to who I am as a person. You all see that? Now, here are the things that align my goals to get this vision. The first thing that I will say I was going to tie 10 percent of my income to God. Now, I don't tell people to do that because that has to be something you decide to do and you can't do it really just to receive something. I do it because I feel as in God's work and it shows gratitude. Listen, I really believe that everything I have is God. I mean I have no real attachment to anything that I have. It's almost like I believe I'm a steward over God stuff than it is my stuff. So, when I think like that, I understand that if everything is God, then God said this is mine and I am going to allow to have reign over all my stuff, 100 percent. All I ask you to do is "Hey, give me 10 percent back just to show your thanks. So, how'd you feel if you gave somebody a brand new car and all you ask is one day I have 10, I just need you to come by take me to the store. Every tenth day just stop by here and they don't come and like I said I'm not going to say what is the punishment, but I just know how I would feel.

The next thing is to spend three hours a week of uninterrupted time with my family. No distractions. Man, I really have to do this with my kids when they're young because I was spending a lot more than three hours a week, but distraction is our problem right now with phones, and I think it takes away with the connection of families. So, I had put that here just for today. The next thing is to invest 10 percent of my income in my 401(K). That is the minimum, but that shows a diligence in saving and now getting your money to work for you. You have to learn that in this process either you're going to direct your money or your money is going to direct you, and that's pretty bad when you have to be directed by your money, but is something you should control. Your money is controlling you. You don't get yourself in debt. So, everybody seen this tag, I owe, I owe, so off the work I go, right? Anybody seen it, right?

The next one was to save \$20,000 for a down payment on house. You need to have the ability to purchase things and have

something to go towards you be a debt free. The no-money down, not being able to be patient and save money you lose the discipline of how to manage money. Patience is the most important thing about managing money. It's whom we teach our kids instant gratification when they get messed up on money. I got to have it right now. I got to be the first, and to me I've always felt that you're really a sucker when you bought some of it the first time it came it out because there are always bugs in it. I'd rather wait until they get out the bugs out. Anyway, you get it when it's right, but that is the patience I have because I'm not really being controlled by the stuff. I may like, but I'm like I'm cool you know, and I could wait. Patience is something that you really have to have when it comes to money.

00:10:03

The next thing was, you have to go beyond the norm. You have to be uncomfortable. And so I put in this part about to work over time, at least six days per month into it. Listen, if you have dug a hole, you can't expect to get out of that hole, but at the same page, you got to start climbing and you have to use some extra effort. You can't compare yourself. You can't think like I can keep doing the same thing. You have to do something different to get a different result. And the last thing I had is to get out of credit card debt, and you put a date by.

Let me explain something to you. Debt is the biggest hindrance to acquire a wealth. You know why? Because in most cases, there's not a lot of things you can invest in that's going to appreciate faster than a debt you're paying to banks and credit card. So, you should actually hate debt. I mean, that's the only time God in the Bible allow a person to be enslaved when you owe money. It is not just slavery that people's experience because it's a lot different. But it was a choice, because when you go to borrow money, you are putting your character on the line. And you promise to pay it back, I don't care if it's a credit card, Bank of America, I don't care who it is. When you sign in, you say I will pay this money back.

And the thing I realized when I thought about this doing this class is that the reason why our words and vision are so important. Every time there's an agreement, we have a God. He makes us make a commitment of what we're going to do, whether it's marriage, whether it's salvation and the same thing with your

money. This is how you get your alignment with God. This is the obedient. And like I said, you can't buy a favor. I'm not righteous. I'm not to the point where I'm perfect. I know I got a lot of flaws, but the one thing I try to do is always listen to myself and not ever lie to myself.

I'm not going to pretend that, "Hey, I really want to be debt-free, but all I think about is what I can buy." I'm not going to pretend. And it took an experience for me of having lost to understand how unimportant stuff is. It was before I could buy what I want. And that's what we have to get to because right now, we are always bombarded with marketing. And if you don't get this attitude together, you're not going to see a difference.

Now, here's a great part about this. When you're young, the best thing you have on your side is time. Just from the beginning. And the great thing about this, you got to have that be a huge hurt to you when you're young because you can start young and you have more time to be consistent so you could do a small amount. But when you've got older, you have a shorter period of time that you need your investment to grow. Now you got to take more risks. Now you got to maybe save more, then you may live at a different rate. It's just like studying for school.

If you mess around, play off semester and then get an F. It used to be a time you had to go to summer school so everybody else is out having the summer and the time of their life. You, is in school working. That's the same thing it is with money. It's nothing. If you decide now to make a commitment and do the best you can, you never know how it's going to go. The one thing you could be happy about is that you started to turn your ship around. God, who gives the increase, it's not us. It's not our own. My God gives the increase. But you have to be doing it not because you want the increase. You got to be doing it because you know it's right in the (00:13:12) to God. That's the attitude.

So, I put this vision up because everybody, if you don't know what you want. I don't think this class is going to help you. It's not going to come just by osmosis. Look, stuff happens that you can't explain, but in my case, I always like to start what I want. Like you can ask me what I want to eat and if you don't have a good recommendation, I can figure out what I want. I don't know why it's a hard thing. In my house, that's the biggest question. What

you want. I said, "I'm going to get something to eat. And I say, "You know what you want?", "No", "Okay, well I'm going in."

And here's another thing. So understand this, and this is something I learned about golf. It is a good example. I did not realize that the brain does not really understand, not what I don't want to do. And I was taking a lesson, the guy was saying that the brain does not understand what you don't want to happen. So in golf, you can be in a situation where you got water on one side and you got woods on the other side. Hey, do you know if you get up there and you say, I don't want to go in the water, I don't want to go in the water. I don't want to go in the woods. Nine out of ten, even if you playing great. You're going to go in the water or the woods. You know what you have to say? I want to go right down the middle. That's all you have to think of. You have to think about putting the ball right down the middle. And that's why I want you all to do with these visions, okay.

Go to slide three, so we know what we want, right? And when we think about our finances, your finances are really just a journey. So, when you know what you want, or when you know where you want to go, what's the second thing you need to know? How to get there? Well, how can you get if you don't know where you are? How can you get to the place when you don't know where you are? The second thing you have to know is, where am I? The second thing you need to know if you go on a run, where am I starting from? Where am I? If you didn't know you had (00:14:54) Salvation, and we didn't have navigation, you cannot get to green by (00:14:59). You can't get anywhere.

00:15:00

So what's the starting point in a financial journey? It's a financial statement. This is an example of financial statement. I have a lot to point, but basically, what it does, this is what you should always monitor to determine where you are with your finances. Because let's just say you got a lump sum of money, right? And you able to pay all your bills off, right? And you really now got an easy budget because you don't owe anybody anything, but you're not watching your money, and you start spending money, right? And for the financial statement has. It has your assets which are things that you own and your liabilities. In this case, we're going to keep it simple because it's not business. It's the things or what you owe, what you owe.

So if you started with the lump sum of money and you said, “Man, I have many bills, and I’m just spending, spending, spending.” I’m not watching my financial statement, and you start spending money buying stuff, and your assets are slowly diminishing, and then you wake up and you right back in the same place. You always need to look at your financial statement to see where you are. If you started with a net worth of say \$50,000 and you say, “Okay, I want to keep this or grow it.” You should look at this statement because your asset minus your liability should always be \$50,000 or more. That’s why you see athletes, celebrities go broke. They’re not watching this. They know they made \$300 million. I can’t spend that. That’s it going be 3, 290.

So, this is the second thing we have to have is a financial statement. And this is what now -- first thing I told you to do a vision. Second thing I told you to do was to monitor your spending. Raise your hands how many people track their spending? Great. That’s a good class. Okay, if you track your spending in one month, you should be able to go here and just fill this out for the month. Okay? Just fill out your cash, what you have on hand and just get a point of reference right now, because you need this to understand as we go on this journey, we go to know where starting from, and as long as you’ve seen improvement, meaning if you find out you upside down with debt, then you’re going to probably have a negative asset value.

And you’re going to be worthless. Donald Trump said one time, he was with his daughter and they were walking into their big towers and pass a homeless man. And Donald Trump said, “Do you know that guy is better off than I am?” He said at that time he was hundreds of millions of dollars in debt. He said, “This guy doesn’t have anything.” He said, “but I’m \$300 or \$400 million in debt. Everybody know basic algebra, right? Well, you had negative \$300 million, and somebody zero, they’re richer than you.

Yeah, you may have stuff, but it’s just a matter of time and he was forced. If it was the biblical times and you didn’t have bankruptcy, he would be a slave. So debt has to be -- so this is the second part of our journey. You need to make sure and you can go online all this stuff now, I used to bring all these different papers, but now you can go Google and just put it in final statement or if you got the app, you should have all the apps and

you need to do a financial statement. So, this is going to be your homework for next month, to create a financial statement.

Now, part two, all the people who are trying to be in the top three of the class. I'm going to need those do a screenshot of tracking your expenses. You're not trying to be in the top three. They asked me to figure out the top three, so that's what I'm going to do, it is action, right? So now, we have what we want. We have where we are. Now, what is the next thing you need? You need to know how you all get there. Before you had Google and Waze, what do we use if we don't know how to get somewhere. There you go. Hey, I was trying to see -- I was talking to a lot of -- they're not millennials, their younger than millennials. What do you call when you are younger millennials? Gen Zs, right. You'd never seen a map, right? Has Gen Z -- have you ever seen a rallies map, Gen Z, anybody? Yeah. I had plenty of rallies map. It makes me feel old, but you need a map.

So, what is a financial road map? A financial roadmap is a budget. A budget tells you the flows of your money. It allows you to direct your money. And when people do a budget, they think that their budget is going to create money. There are three components you have to have to really have a real budget. First, you have to have income. And to be honest with you, I have found that you are really supposed to base your budget of your income. Now we're going to over how you determine what you can afford. And those are guidelines within the budget. But most people don't base their budget off of their income. They base their budget of what people tell them they can afford. Like, if you go buy a house, the bank is in the business to do what? What's the business of the bank? Who said, get your money? They don't get it. But what's their business? Make loans, make loans.

My job is to make a loan. What am I going to do? I'm going to try to loan -- if I feel like I can get my money back, I'm going to try to loan you as much money as you can. And a banker tells you that you can afford a home, a mortgage up to 30% of your gross, and they will loan it to you. Believe me, you're going to be a happy constraint. Your mortgage should be based off 25% of your take home.

That's what you really could afford. We don't go beyond right now -- I'm going to go every step, but the budget is the roadmap. The budget is the roadmap and the budget is one of the most important tools to keep you on a consistent day-to-day observation enrolment. Your financial statement, you can do that twice a year or annually. You don't have to do that every month. But your budget, you should check it every month. You should be reconciling your checkbook and you should be checking your budget.

Now let me ask you this question. How many people were surprised when they tracked their expenses? Now raise those hand high. Right, you see how the little nickel and dimes will add up. But guess what? It adds up the same way when you're saving. When you control it, you will have more opportunity to grow your money fast, and let me say this also. You know, we're always chase opportunities, but if you have money, there are always opportunities. You shouldn't have get to a point where you are upset because you missed the opportunity, when you had the money, you figure you didn't know or you were so nervous. Always trust your instincts and always understand the risk. We're here to investing -- investing is managing risks. That's what investing is. It's not the market of things. I don't what, you got to manage risk, both your budget. You need to understand and direct your money.

Go to the next slide for me. So, what side of the budget do we think is the hardest side for us to maintain? You think of income side. Are we standing up at night thinking about how we could make more money just because we want to make more money? Or are we thinking about how we can make more money, the more to get some? Be honest because you are in church, one or two? Okay. Okay. As you want to get something, right? And so we talk.

The first thing I like for you just do in this exercise is stand in front of a mirror just you and that person on the other side of that piece of glass -- and I want you to start being honest with yourself because what I talk about is the emotion behind, "Why do you do things with your money?" Now if you have your savings in order. If you have your debt, you don't owe anybody, then by all means, this is not really. I mean it's more you just keep that in your life, you can keep your situation that way, but this is not what I'm talking about when you have to be conscious. You have to be

conscious somewhat where you can get away with a lot more. Because when you do the budget, you will see -- well start talking about guidelines, you will see where there's certain percentages that we call needs. There's another percentage that we call wants, and another percentage that we call savings and debt reduction.

So those really the three parts. And your needs are something that you have to take care of. We all need what? Somebody say water. You do the water, but we're going to say food and clothing. Those are your basic needs, right? We went to NRG, if you can get some food, get some shelter, get some clothing, you'll be all right because money is not going to be an issue there, right? So that's need, but we want to expand upon it, but when you get to really why you're buying something, you have to look in the mirror and ask yourself, "What is the driving force behind my purchases?"

When I was young, the driving force behind my purchasing was girls. I mean you roll up in a nice car. You're not to talk as hard. You have to ask the women and I found, if you can afford to feed a young lady, they'll like you a little more. I don't know what it is. It may go a long way. My point is that my motivation when I was younger was girls. The whole time is true. Am not that wrong with it, it's true.

Now if I'm still that way 40 years later, I could be in a lot of trouble, you know? But that's the part, the childish attitude, but you have people who are grown older than me who's still motivated by the same thing, not because you don't have the urges, but not because you don't see it's not appealing to you. You understand the cost and I want you to understand is that you have to always be able to calculate the cost of the consequence of your actions. And what I want to tell you without a budget is that you can make any amount of money and go broke. If you don't watch your money, you can make any amount of money and go broke. There's no real amount of money that you can make that you can never spend if you had that mentality.

That's why you don't see like let's take Bill Gates. Let's take Sam Walton. They don't just go and just say, "Hey, let me just buy and give." They can give a lot, but it's still a percentage of what they have. The more money you have, the more you should watch your money. You know, just like, you know, bigger dog, the more fleas

you will get. So the more money you have, you better watch your money because you can go broke. But even when you don't have money, you got to watch your money because you could either be dead. You can be homeless. The situation never going to change or shift.

Your problems won't solve with more money. Your problems are solved with your stewardship of money. Everybody repeat that. Yes. See, those people say, "Now you crave, I have more money right now. My problem will be solved." Well, ask Robin Williams why his problem wasn't solved? He commits a suicide with \$50 million in the bank.

00:25:04

I mean you all really can commit suicide. I tell you, understand the stewardship. So, the exercise I want you to do -- I want you to be honest and think about your purchase. Think about whatever is that you have an uncontrollable urge to buy something. Now if you don't have this problem, that's not a problem. But if you're saying, "Hey, I look at my budget. Now this will be hard. This will be tight." If the feeling of being afraid is not overwhelming, the feeling of the tightness you got to feel, you're not being honest with yourself. It's just like, "Well, people are slaves." When they freed the slaves in America, they gave them nothing. They walked out when nobody stayed, but it was better being a slave and no where to go, nothing.

You know, if you start reading history, understand they teach it at school but they had nothing, no rights, nowhere to go. A lot were forced to go back to the plantation and that's what we're doing when we don't understand. We got to get control of our finances today and allow God to cost increase because we are being obedient and stewards.

So the budget, you have two sides to the budget, okay? I had the point I left, okay, so on the top you see your assets or your cash or your income. So your income is the first thing that you put down, and I like to tell you when you do your budget, you take home. Do not use gross. Now we're going to talk about how to fix a bad budget because in the event you are getting a lot of income tax back, like if you're getting a thousand dollars' worth of income tax, like you're waiting on taxman, you're getting \$5,000 or \$6,000, you are mismanaging your money. How many have even

do that? Two people knew they're mismanaging. Yeah. You know what you're doing? Well you get that refund for \$5,000 if you're not in business and you're working, then you lost a lot of money like Donald Trump. He had to pay all taxes, he had a lot of losses.

But if you didn't lose money and you're working and you have ordinary income, you just gave Uncle Sam a year to hold your money and you got paid nothing. You should never get a refund over a thousand dollars. You should always make sure. If you get it one time, you should adjust your dependence and get it down.

I hope that you will participate in your 401(k) but that's going to be a part -- those are things that allow you to get the most out of your money and decrease your tax liability. So on top, you have income. On the bottom you have the expenses. So your expenses are broken up in category, right? So, I talked about early that there are basic categories when it comes to your budget, needs and there's a 50-30-20 rule that they use just to give you a feel for your needs. And they'll you 50% of your income should take care of all of your need. What are your needs? In this case, housing, food, transportation, insurance. Why insurance? Because you need insurance. You need to protect stuff you own. You need to protect your house. If you have an apartment, renter's insurance. Utilities, utilities at a minimum, meaning your cellphone is not a utility, it's necessary unless it's a part of how you make your money. You could have a cellphone for emergencies, but it's not a necessity. You can get one those payphones where you can budget the amount.

Now I know you go get -- not have a lot of swag, you can pull out -- well hey, listen, when I told the story, it's amazing when you are focused on your goal and how the universe will line up with you. The one person you want to attract -- not people whose laugh at you or most people who you're trying to impress. They really don't care about you. You know, you really should focus on the person that you really want to impress. It be amazing if you have a phone because you were managing, been a great steward and you saw this nice guy or this beautiful girl and they found that you had this phone because you are managing your money and that guy said, "Man, that's what I've been looking for. I've been looking for a lady who can manage money." Everybody taught to

spend money. That's how God worked. That's how you're lying to yourself with God and put yourself in position for a blessing.

So the needs are utilities, and they have minimal debt payment because in all actuality, if you are in a goal of getting out of debt, you will have minimum payments that you will make because we're going to do a snowball. We're talking about -- I like this day ramp that we did, is a snowball of debt relief and we'll talk about that, but those are your childcare or anything else that you need to be able to employ. Those are needs. If you need to have your child in childcare so you could work, that's need.

Now what are your wants? Your wants are monthly subscriptions, eating out. How many people know that eating out is way more expensive than cooking at home? I want to make sure that women know that because -- I'm just joking. Let me weigh on that. But meals out, travel, entertainment, those are wants.

Now savings and debt are the last 20%. So you have 30% in wants and 20% in debt reduction. Now you could always substitute and move more from wants to savings and debt reduction or you can move wants to needs. You know, you might say, "Well, I got to make a sacrifice because you know, I need to be able to put my child in childcare, but I'm at 50%." So these are not extra stone, but if you pull from one category to the other, you have to make the adjustment. You cannot pull 10% out of wants and put it into savings and then you're going to still be at 30% in wants.

00:30:02

You pour 20% at wants, now you're at -- I mean 10% at wants, now you're at 20% at wants and 30% in saving. Understand? So, that's a general rule of the three categories. Now, what are the line items?

So, the way I look at it is and go to the next budget guideline. Okay. So, giving is first. And why I'd put giving is in there, there's a universal rule about giving. And I talked about it when if you try to take a quarter and you get to a point where you're like screwed, you take a quarter and you cling your hand so tight and you hold the quarter but if I had a dollar and this is the only hand you had, and I try to stick it in there, you have to release the quarter to get the dollar. So, giving is a part of the even flow

of how money is received. So, giving and I put 10% because my philosophy is I'm going to make sure I tie (ph). Remember it.

The way I look at it is it's my gratitude to God for allowing me to be a steward of 100%, it really is. Also, generosity sometimes would take the focus off of you and allow you not to feel so bad about your situation where you could help somebody else. It's the issues in our faith when you can start to understand that you think you're in the worst shape until you find somebody. I cried and cried when I had no shoes. I saw somebody who had no feet. It's the same thing. So, I don't tell you to give. I'm not talking on old money comments. I'm talking about how you would actually give and you learn to give even when you are in debt. So, my thing is that I can pretty much rest assure that you are not tidy when you're going in debt. Now that you're in debt, you might want to try (00:31:32) but you have to budget it. You understand?

The next thing is savings. This is really important because in this life, you're always going to have uncertainties. Things are going to happen. And the reason why you have to have an emergency fund is because – and the savings because if you are investing and your money is designed to work for you. If you are buying stocks and you buy stocks and it just so happens that an emergency happened when the stocks are low and you have to sell, you'll lose money. You do not lose money at stock market until you sell.

A lot of people sold a lot of their stocks back in March. The pandemic (00:32:08) this is it. The world's going to end. And I had several – and by that time, some people took all their money out at the bottom. Now they come back in to give it. Their money is worth less and then the market is up. So, you never can time the market. What you want to do in the whole understanding about investing in the stock market is you are buying the industry. You're buying the company which is like when you start a company and you had a great concept and you want something to happen and it just so happened your company went to a little back spill, you (00:32:38) sell your company because it went to a back spill. You'll keep working so if you see a company that goes down, the stock market is emotional. It is not solely on the value of the company. It's the value of what people want to pay just like everything else. I mean if I got a jacket and I paid \$100 for it and you said, "Hey, man, I'd give you \$150." The value of that jacket just went to \$150. Now somebody else will say, "I'll give you \$200." But it's still the jacket I paid \$100 for. Now if I sell it, I

can make \$200 but if I don't sell it, I still got \$100. Now if it dropped in value, now we'll give you \$50 for the jacket. Again, if I sell it, it's still the \$100 I paid for. It's only if I don't sell it but it's only when you sell, you lose money. So, savings, we first start by save it in the emergency fund before we start investing. That's the first thing we do.

The second thing we do is get out of debt because we're in a transformational economy. There are a lot of things happening but I'm going to tell you, it's hard to pick stocks. It takes a great genius and a great person who has awareness and a person who really is what I call in-tune immediately. And some people got that talent. I mean Pastor James is very good at that. He's done it several times. That's not really my gift. But I do understand the situation so I can start researching but I'm in best at – well, I'm best in quality. My problem is I manage in risk. But there still can be a chance I can take a risk with small amount of money. But again, that's just the precision you're in when you have money.

So, we save a thousand dollars and get our emergency fund. Then we get out of debt, okay? Once we get out of debt and the debt I'm talking about is not your house, but more. Your credit cards, your student loans and things like that. And we're going to talk about the snowball of debt really. And then once you do, once you have your thousand dollars and you've managed to pay up all your credit cards, then you start saving for three to six months. And once you get three months, now you can start investing. Because now you are fine if another pandemic comes. Think about the people who didn't have any savings and the pandemic came and the market was down and they had to sell their stuff. This is a perfect example why you really want to have savings, right? Okay?

The next line item is food. And it's really tricky here. Because we know we are in society. Now really, listen. To be honest with you, this is a great excuse to get in shape. Because I'm going to tell you, if you eat healthy, it's expensive in some ways but it's not expensive if you eat now.

00:35:03

So, my thing is that I remember my mother used to do this as a therapeutic where she had a garden and I remember after work,

she would come home and she would go work on her garden. And then halfway through the summer, she had all kinds of okra and tomatoes and squash and all this. If you're really serious about it, you start a garden. You start eating at home. You start clipping coupons. You start shopping and understanding the sales cycles. You are just as intentional when you are spending every dollar. I know I had a friend and I was helping out and he's a single guy. And he was single, he has a house to pay for, everything. He makes \$50,000 a year and he had no money. And when it comes to his budget, if \$50,000 a year, you're taking home about \$3,500 or \$3,000 a month. But he was spending almost \$1,800 in food. He'll go to Cracker Barrel (00:35:53). Then he gets a lunch at (00:35:54). They get a dinner somewhere. He has now \$50-\$60. And when we do \$60 x \$30, that's \$1,800.

So, the first thing you need to understand about food, it's cheaper if you cook at home. And it's much cheaper if you cook a lot more vegetables and beans and with legumes and vegetables. That is not getting a lot of meat which is not good for you anyway. Some people do it but not a lot. And you start seeing the results physically. So, food, you eat it at home, stop restaurants, grocery shop, go to the farmers market, go where the food is – you might have to drive up there but go out there once a week and load up. Freeze your vegetables. It's better than eating the stuff you buy at a McDonald's. I can tell you that. I can tell you the French fries at McDonald's are frozen so it's not like you can't freeze no vegetables. There's no problem in that, right?

Utilities. Again, this is the part where you are – this all depends on your situation. Utilities, you might have to have a coat on. I heard (00:36:46) say – he didn't realize it's important. He went to a schoolmate and he walked in the house and they didn't have coats on inside. His parents were really watching utilities but the number one utility that we spend most of our money on is cell phone. We think it's a utility but utilities I'm talking about is heat, water, electricity. So, the cell phone is crucial, mate. I mean people love this cell phone and they are working 24 hours to make you more and more addicted to it. Now you can act like you don't understand a game. We just fall for it. But it served a point. You got to say, "I want to control me. I'm not going to let somebody else control me." Okay?

The next thing on there is housing. Now that's the part I was talking about. Your housing. So, what's included in housing?

HOA fees, PMI which is principal mortgage insurance. You got to understand that if you are spending more than 25% of your take home pay in your housing, you are overpaying. Now if your car is paid for and you have nothing on the line outside repair, and we will talk about transportation because you do have the effect in your repairs which the repairs of your car should also follow (00:37:52) of what that is but your housing is one and one thing that people look at as the asset. But your house is really not a liability to your owning. Now (00:38:00) your house is a liability until he's making money. That is a (00:38:03). That's an asset. But it's an asset truly because you can sell it and you get your money for it. Sometimes, you give more than you pay for. But it's a liability because you got to make a note every month. A mortgage payment. So, cash is coming up. You understand?

So, your goal is – and think about this for retirement, think about the fact that if you're at retirement, your house is paid for, you can automatically knock 25% of what you need to live because now, your house is paid for. That drops to maybe 10 because you got to pay the taxes on. So, even once you get to the point where you paid up all your, what I call consumer debt, you are paying the house off. You want to escalate even though the interest is not, you want to pay the house off. You want to be completely debt-free. Then you can escalate your savings.

The next line item is transportation. This is one thing where I know people that, "What kind of car can I buy at 5% or 10% of my take home pay?" That's a car you can afford. That's the essence of marketing. Marketing tells us just like with me, at a certain point, I didn't realize the car really mattered. I wish you all knew that. I did, I did. I mean really, I realized that and I felt so stupid about putting on a money the car can't get out off. I realized that because when I sold the car, I got nothing of value for all that money I put in. But that's to learn.

Listen, it's not a sin, it's not I call stupid to make a mistake once. Stupidity is you keep doing it over and over again. Now if I can afford – I mean to be honest with you, that's why certain cars, I can afford it. A car I want, but I can't buy certain cars because I just can't see the value in it. I can't see getting a car I can't drive. There are some cars you buy and they're the most expensive cars, you can't put all 5,000 miles on it. So, we all see these people riding around these roads in their Ferraris. They're paying

\$300,000-\$400,000 for a car. It can't put 5,000 miles on it and when they sell it, they're going to lose half their money. So, why are they buying the car?

00:40:00

See what I'm saying? So, it's not the amount of money, they're doing the same thing a person would do in a car or a person going to buy a pair of Jordan's for their baby when they have no money. It's the same mentality. It is. There is something in your emotional state that makes you feel worthless without the stuff. It increases your personal value because you got something that somebody made. I hope you understand it because I want you all, when we get to the part by investing, I think everybody should be revved up, not the one to spend money until they have their money working for them and they are growing it on their financial journey.

I'm not saying once you get everything right, you got to be a scrooge, but let me tell you this, there's a freedom to want what you have. There's a freedom in contentment. So, I showed you the picture of the lady who gave away \$150,000.00. Now, unless you have given \$150,000.00 to a college, she is richer than you because she is able to give \$150,000.00 to a college and she gave another \$100,000.00 to the family when you read the whole story and she never made over minimum wage.

Health, now your health is important and that's a part of what you need. And your health starts with you taking care of your body. So, if you got on the right grocery list and a healthy grocery list, this won't be a huge expense but you got again 5% to 10%, you make a budget for that because that is something you need to have. But it really pays if you take care of yourself. If you exercise, eat right, and get rest and don't get upset.

I got a rule about getting upset. I don't really get mad unless I need adrenaline to fight. That's a rule I made. I did, I mean I made it about five years ago. I said listen, I'm not going to get mad because, and I'll give a little joke, but I remember the thing that was most just hit me with a ton of bricks. I got a daughter, right? And at this time, she was in high school but there was a viral video that went off, the girl had brought her daddy to school, right? And the boy was throwing French fries at the daughter, and so the dad took him outside, and they go, "You know, rough

the little boy up.” The little boy knocked that daddy up. And he went down on the floor. He got knocked down so bad that one of his legs was stuck in the air. And the girl was like, “You knocked my daddy up.” And at the point, I was like, “Man, I need to work out.”

Because everybody got cameras now. You get knocked out at school, so my daughter is in school. I said, “Shoot, I’ve got to be ready to move.” So, I started taking care of by body. And I’m 100% serious because my son came home one day, he had been working out and we used to tussle, right? And when he was a little boy, I used to toss him up and man, I was stressing with that rascal, too. That one’s getting no grip and he was about to embarrass me. So, your health, if you pay attention to your health, there’s benefits to that. There are benefits. And I’m telling you, I’m bringing my class reunion picture up here, man, people are not – listen, when you get at 50, man makes a huge difference. You’re going to wish you have been doing what you’re supposed to do.

Okay, the next thing is insurance. Now this is not fun to talk about, but it is needed. Listen, you need insurance. You need insurance of your property. And if you have a family and you have loved ones and you are married, then you need to have insurance for your spouse. Now, you got to marry right. I know we all look at those TV shows where people kill their spouse over \$100,00.00. You all should marry right. You all have seen it. I’m like, “Dang, \$100,000.00?” This kid isn’t equating. But your insurance, you need to insure your stuff because that will protect the uncertainty. There’s nothing worse when you have people, you know, the apartment kitchen on fire, they have no renter’s insurance. While you’re in a home, and your home burned down, no insurance, okay? So, insurance is a necessity to allow you not to have huge needs for cash because an uncertainty happened, okay?

Next, is recreational spend. These are ones, now, I know some people got gym memberships and all that, well I’m going to tell you, you can do more if you start walking 35 minutes of brisk walk and even an hour than you can going to the gym. So, if you got to cut, that mean you’re going to have exercise. Push-ups, burpees, and walking will get you pretty much all your muscles working. Now, you’re throwing sit ups, then you get the abs. So, you don’t need a gym membership from that. You can do that outside, you

can do it at a park, but recreational things, you know, should be at 5% to 10% personal spending.

Personal spending are things that you do within a 5% -- if you're in a budget, you don't want to get to bunk with especially if you're married where you're so tight and so focused that you don't allow personal health any leverage. Because sometimes, it's going to be sort of like culture shock to some people to get on a tight budget. You know, if you've married to a young lady and her daddy gave her everything she wanted, there's going to be culture shock. But here's the key, you get your significant other, your spouse, to buy in to the goal. And if you're consistent, they will be consistent and you hold everybody accountable. And you hopefully have a person who says, "This is what I'm going to do" and they have the character to do it.

That's more valuable in a relationship and it's more valuable to yourself. If you're not going to do something, just say you're not going to do it. I mean that's who I am, I'm like, "Look, you know, at this point, I'm not going to do that." Now, if it's something I need to do, then I got to be in my budget than pay somebody to do it.

00:45:03

Like, in my house, we all make agreements. Like, we got to list them all down. And I got a problem picking up doo-doo. I cannot -- I mean I can't do a lot of changing diapers, to be honest. That's a weakness of mine. I'm sorry. So, I'm the garbage man. I take the garbage out, I put it up, take it out, I put it out and I pick no doo-doo, and I pick up the books. So, I get the books, so if you compromise with a person, they're not upset. So, when I come home and there's a little gift there, I was, "Yeah, I'll clean up all night."

So, lifestyle, entertainment, all that stuff is in that recreation and personal spending but either one still needs to be within 5% to 10%. So, you also have your emergency fund but if you're out of debt, if you're out of debt and you're doing this budget, because if you're in debt, and especially what I'm talking about, the debt I'm talking about is credit cards, student loans, those debts, not your house. Everything except your house, all that other stuff you want to minimize. You want to be on the low end of that percentage. You're going to be 5% of recreation, 5% on personal

spending, 5% to zero. And you want to put as much money as you can to get out of debt.

Because once you pay those credit cards out, you will see how your money is going to free up and how do we pay it all? We'll talk about it later, but you take the lowest balance and you start paying it all first. You pay the minimal everybody – it's a snowball effect. You pay the minimum on all the other debts and you take the lowest balance. If you've got something for \$500.00, you take that and you push all the extra money to get that \$500.00 balance off. And once you get there as soon as you can, then you go to the next and you push all the extra money to that.

Now, it gives you a sense of achievement and you can see your debt going away. But you don't necessarily – I don't recommend consolidation. Because there is a sort of an unhealthy comfort that comes when people think they got one note. You would think they would take all the extra money and pay that consolidated loan off faster. But that's not what happens. You know what happens? They take that extra money and go in more debt. And they go, "Oh, my Lord," that's why I have me also – even with people who were taking equity out of their home in the first home bubble in 2006 and 2007, that's what they were doing.

Now, your debt is your biggest hindrance to you becoming financially independent. Besides you manage your money. But I'm saying that's the line item. If you can get down to where you only have a house note, and once you get that paid off, you can now have the freedom that you're asking for where you can direct your money and you can keep it. But all of these tools I've given you are really important, the financial statements are important, the budget is important.

So, this is what everybody is going to do in this class, we're going to take our monitoring of our expenses and we'll create a budget. And the budget is you're going to put the priority based on these, and where there are things that you can cut in your needs, you're going to do that. Meaning, if you can get your electric bill down and wear a jacket and some warmers in your house, do it. If you're married, you can just cuddle up more. You all just sit close together. You know? But, look at all the line items. And even if you could say 10%, if you find 10% saving across the board, when you look at your incomes, so let's say you bring home \$4,500.00 a month, if you're able to save 10% across the board and you're not

going to be able to save all your mortgage, that's going to be fit. It may be your car, if you've got a car note, but if you can save 10% for your travel and gas, you know, you get a free in your carpool. Gas isn't cheap now, but wherever you can find, when you look at your budget, if you save 10% across the board, you would then save \$450.00. Now, if you stop doing things like eating out, you will save a whole lot more.

You still have brown bagging it, taking your lunch. Listen, that lunch out, now most people are working and living at home, so takeout should be down but eating out is one of the biggest expenses. People making bad decision on cars and old panels of house and clothes. I know of lady's clothes is a big deal, most guys, before they get married, they got like three or four pair of pants, you know? But again, you got to reach your goal. And once you reach your goal, your freedom will be there. But here's the thing, once you reach your goal, your (00:49:09) would turn to something different, and it won't be that same pull on you to buy the stuff. It's not going to be sad, it's like liberating, you know? It's crazy, you know, because my car is five years old. All my cars are four and five years old. That's crazy, that was on (00:49:24) on some people. But some people who said, "Man, you're crazy. You got around four or five-year-old car."

I have one friend who got mad at me, "Man, what are you doing at work?" I do under (00:49:37). So, remember, assignment four is to do your budget, okay? And we'll go start talking about understanding investment on the next class but we're going to do our budget and we're going to do what's called fix a sick budget. Now, I'm talking much about this because I want to give to stewardship but in some case when you do your budget, if you have income problems, you have to make more money. If you find that your bulk of your budget has been consuming just your needs.

00:50:00

If you don't have any debt, then you got earn more money or you got to change your lifestyle. Now, if you don't have a house note, then you got to earn more money. If you have no credit card debt, no house note and your money is at a point where you can barely make it, you got to earn more money.

Here's the good news. There are so many opportunities of in-home jobs now. Anybody here has a business that work running out of their home, like customer service? We got one person. Yeah, two. You know, there are jobs, customer service and things like that and I'm going to research some of that, but you can research it. I mean, you can talk to friends, but there are things that if you have a talent, you have to find a way to monetize your talent.

So, do the budget and we're going to heal the sick budget. We will talk about those line items a little bit more, but then we will get into investing 101. Did everybody understand everything about the vision? And you also are supposed to bring your financial state. So, you can go online. If you have those apps, a lot of those apps will automatically pull the financial statement if you input the information.

But that's really key, because that's going to show you your movement. Any questions? Say it again? Oh, I'm sorry. I said three things to a budget, okay? So, it's income, expenses, and you always put your actual income, expenses and your actual. So, here's the way it looked. Can you put that budget back on there? Thank you. I kind of got off track. Put the budget back on there, that budget sheet.

When you have a budget, you have your expenses, right? You have your income. Your budget items are what you decide you're going to spend on every category. That's your budget items. So, let's just say your house note is a thousand dollars. Now I'm going to say that's what's you're going on budget, right? And then you say, "My utilities last month were \$100,000.00." You said, "Well, I'm going to try to get down to \$90,000.00. I'm going to cut the temperature down," and you're going to budget \$90,000.00.

Let's say if your car note is going to be fixed, but if your car note is more than the 10% allowed for car notes, for transportation, you're spending more than 10% depending on how deep your home, nothing is safe. You may have to sell your car and get a bucket to drive. That's what Dave Ramsey – he called it a Hoopty. You want to get a reliable car because sometimes we overspend on cars.

If you ride a Lexus paying \$1,600.00 or \$600.00 dollars, \$700.00 dollars a month and you are upside down your budget, you may

have to go to \$300.00 a month car. But guess what? If you do that and you're able to get your funds or you can go back and buy what you want and you should be paying cash for a car.

I heard – I had a young lady in my job telling me how her friend told her, she doesn't care about how much the car costs. She makes a good living. She doesn't even negotiate. She doesn't even ask, she's on a car note. The worst thing you can do is not look at your statement and see what you're paying for the car. Never negotiate a car based on the car note. You negotiate the cost of the car based on what you're paying for including interest. Everything on the car is negotiable.

But if you're upside down and you're able to sell the car; if you're too upside down, sometimes you got to wait it out. But if you're not upside down, you can sell the car. Then it's better for you to sell it and get something more affordable, okay? So those are the three things; income, expenses and the actual amount. You got the budget amount and the actual amount. You have to put the actual amount every time you line your budget at the end of the month.

So, whatever your budget, it's what your plan is. Your budget amount is your direction, that's you telling your child who's your daughter, "Go over there and sit down." Now, if you don't budget, your child is running around with your money; just running around, tearing up everything. You want to direct your money. Any questions on that? Any questions? The budget amount is what you're directing your money to spend for that month and we're going to do it every month and we're going to watch. We're going to watch our tracking because we have everything on our different apps and you track to see what you're doing.

If you saw you spend a lot of money at a quick trip or you spend a lot of money at Starbucks and you're at a Maxwell House, you go from \$4.00 to \$25.00 in a cup. Any other questions? No other questions? All right then, well, we went 18 minutes over but it's all right. Now, I want everybody to make sure they got the assignment and make sure you have everything to me about 12 midnight. You should have had it. So, I'm giving you, you go home and email it. And the email again is or [rendermymoney@gmail.com](mailto:rendermymoney@gmail.com). Your church, [rendermymoney@gmail.com](mailto:rendermymoney@gmail.com). All right, thank you.

Female: You are listening to [BrothersoftheWord.com](http://BrothersoftheWord.com). This was Session 2 of the Render My Money 2021 series by Gerald Render. This message is number 4524. That's 4524. To listen to thousands of free messages or to send this message number 4524 to a friend, go to [BrothersoftheWord.com](http://BrothersoftheWord.com).

Male: If this message has been a blessing to you and you would like to help support this ministry, go to [iwanttogive.com](http://iwanttogive.com). That's [iwanttogive.com](http://iwanttogive.com).

Female: Listen to [BrothersoftheWord.com](http://BrothersoftheWord.com) often because brother, you need the word.

(Music Playing: 00:54:55 - 00:55:02)

00:55:02