SESSION 5 WHAT WE CAN AFFORD

”Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.

But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy and where thieves do not break in and steal.

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also…

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

 **Matthew 6: 19-21, & 33**

Making the right investments is very important to most of us. Jesus, in his “Sermon on the Mount” addressed the need to invest in what lasts. So many things on which we spend our money comes to nothing in the end. Our money and our stuff can be stolen from us by unprincipled thieves, or they can disappear during a time of unfavourable economic conditions. Only those investments in people, and for God’s kingdom purposes, are truly wise.

Jesus clearly advised his followers that where one invests is telling of where ones focus of thoughts, energies, and values really lie. Therefore, as you plan your financial future remember you are doing more than spending money; in a very real sense you are making a commitment to live for the present or to invest in eternity.

Keep in mind the priorities and values you have already discussed in weeks 1-4. Then attempt to make your budget as sensible and realistically as possible.

**FINANCIAL GOALS AND PRIORITIES**

List in order of importance five areas where you should spend your money right now:

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If someone gave you a gift of $5000 how would you spend it?

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What amount of money do you think you need to earn to live the kind of lifestyle you would like to live? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What would this money buy? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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What are your thoughts about giving to church and charity? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Do you have a percentage of your income that you think is appropriate to give? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is your attitude toward debt? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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a) What short term debt are you carrying (i.e., credit cards, line of credit, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How much do you think is ok? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

b) What long term debt are you carrying (i.e., student loan, car loan, mortgage loan, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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How much money per month will you be willing to pay for housing when you are first married? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How much will you be willing to pay for a vehicle(s) when you are first married? (both purchase & maintenance monthly) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you plan to, or already, save a portion of each paycheque? Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what percentage do you feel is appropriate? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Who is going to be responsible for financial planning and bill playing in your future home? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What kind of insurance protection do you think you will need?

(List amounts you think are good estimates)

House/renters insurance \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Car insurance(s) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Life Insurance \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Accident/injury insurance \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Have you made a will? Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If no, do you plan to do so? Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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What are your feelings about having a percentage of your take-home pay set aside as “non-accountable allowance” for each of you to spend as you like, no questions asked? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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What amount would be appropriate for each of you? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What do you believe is the function of a budget? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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How do you feel about budgeting? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**BUDGET**

**Gross Income** $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Fixed Expenses**

Income taxes $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

EI $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CPP $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Union fees $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Giving $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Other $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Working Income (deduct total fixed from gross) $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

BUDGET %

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Savings (i.e.,10% of working income) $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Living Expenses (i.e., 70% of working income) $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**LIVING EXPENSES MONTHLY PER PAY PERIOD**

HOUSING $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ENERGY $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PROPERTY TAX $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PHONES $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

INTERNET $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CAR INSURANCE $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CAR REPAIRS $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

FUEL $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

TRANSIT $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

LIFE INSURANCE $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

HOUSE/RENTERS INSURANCE $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ACCIDENT/INJURY INSURANCE $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

MEDICAL EXPENSES $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

FOOD $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CLOTHING $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

HOME FURNISHINGS $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSAL DISCRETIONARY SPENDING $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

RECREATION/ENTERTAINMENT $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

EATING OUT $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIPS (clubs, subscriptions) $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

GIFTS (b-days & Christmas) $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

HOLIDAYS $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

OTHER \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**TOTAL LIVING EXPENSES**  $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**DEBTS**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Debts & Buffer (i.e., 20% of working income)

CREDIT CARD(S) $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT LOAN(S) $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

LINE OF CREDIT $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CAR PAYMENT $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

OTHER \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**TOTAL DEBTS** $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_