

TRACKING AND DISCIPLINING YOUR FINANCES & Budget # 1

The costs/expenses shown in the example are to be placed in the blank budget form and balanced out to \$0.00 for each of the four cumulative pays per husband and wife by the end of the month. You might have to reduce savings or other items (the possible reductions are not to include the tithe and offering) This is one of the many reasons why hearing the Lord, obedience and prayer, are so vitally important. The numbers next to each item relate to what is on the budget form.

The example shown shows a married couple where **person 1 earns** \$50,180.00 annually at \$965.00/week & \$1,930.00 bi-weekly. **(1A & 1E) Person 2 earns** \$65,000.00 annually, while being paid \$1,250.00 weekly & \$2,500.00 bi-weekly. **(1C & 1G)** They're both paid bi-weekly each month in different weeks; person 1 is paid in week 1 & 3 of the month, while person 2 is paid week 2 & week 4 of the month. Federal taxes, state taxes & (city taxes where applicable), Social Security, Medicare, life & health insurance, retirement, union dues must be deducted from the total pay, which is the gross pay, will equate to 28.5% to 30.00% of the gross. **For this example, I deducted 30.00%.** **(2B, 2D, 2F & 2H)**

They are faithful, knowledgeable Christians who give a **tithe & offering each month** equating to \$223.00/bi-weekly pay for person 1 (this includes \$193.00 for the tithe & \$30.00 for the offering = \$223, **3B & 3F**) & **\$446.00/month**. Person 2 gives \$290.00/bi-weekly pay **(3D & 3H)** (this includes \$250.00 for the tithe & \$40.00 for the offering) & **\$580.00/month**.

They are buying a home which has a monthly house note of **\$1,200.00/month (8)**. The **home insurance is \$450.00 annually** that is paid at **\$38.00/month (10)** & the **real estate taxes are \$4,500.00 annually**, that is paid at **\$375.00/month (9)**. **Savings (4)**, started out at 10% of the gross & deductions to it were made dependent upon bills, etc. The **Emergency Fund (5A)** (are monies put away for unplanned expenses to prevent taking money from your savings. For person 1 **\$20.00/bi-weekly** was deducted & person 2 **\$25.00/bi-weekly**. The Retirement Fund **(5B)**, is usually taken care of by most employers; however, if you are an entrepreneur, you will have to fund it. **College Fund (6)**, at **\$30** for person 1, as deemed affordable and **\$35.00** for person 2, is for putting money away for self & or the children. **Miscellaneous (7)** for person 1 is **\$20.00** bi-weekly & **\$25.00** bi-weekly for person 2. It is for periodic expenses that are unplanned. **Electricity (12A)**, **Gas (12B)** & **(13A) Water** are estimated at **\$60.00/month** for electric, gas is averaged out at **\$175.00/month** & water is averaged out at **\$30.00/month**. **(13B) Phone**, **(14A) Cable** & **(14B) Internet** are estimated monthly at **\$100.00** for the phone, **\$65.00** for cable & **\$75.00** for internet. **Grocery (15)** & **Restaurant (16)** costs are **\$350.00** & **\$125.00/month**.

Other expenses range from **Car payment (17)**, (**car 1, A, car 2 B**) for the 2 cars are **(18) gasoline \$350.00/month repairs/tires/upkeep** at **\$50.00/month (19)**, **Car insurance (20)** for 2 cars is \$1,800.00 annually or **\$150.00/month**, at license & taxes is **\$25.00/month (21)**, **car replacement (22)** costs are **\$175.00/month**. The purpose for car replacement is to prepare yourself for the eventual replacement of vehicles without making a bill.

Clothing at **\$50.00/month (23)**, laundry & cleaners **(24)** at **\$50.00/month**, medical costs such as doctor/dental are **(28) \$50.00/month** with childcare is \$50.00/month, **(31) Gym (32)** is as one can afford & hair care **(33)** is **\$50.00/month**. **Educational** costs are at **\$75.00/month (34)**, **Child support/alimony** is as appropriate **(35)**, **Allowance is (36)**, **Subscriptions (37A)**, **organizational dues (37B)**, are as appropriate, **gift buying & Christmas shopping (38)** equates to \$900.00/year or **\$75.00/month**, **Recreation, (39)** is as appropriate to your desire, finally, **Entertainment (40)** cost are at **\$100.00/month**. They **vacation (41)** once a year at a cost of \$1,000.00 or **\$83.00/month**.

The Disability **(26)**, health **(27)**, and life insurance **(30)**, is usually taken care of by most employers; however, if you are an entrepreneur, you will have to pay for it.

There are 3 credit card bills. The first is Master card at \$1,500.00 with an interest rate of 17.99%, Department store 1 card at 1,200.00 with an interest rate of 13.99% & the Visa 1 card at \$2,000.00 with an interest rate of 28.99%. Your monthly payment on each of these bills must be at least **2.5% of the balance** & are due by the 30th of the month. They have two children; both under 8 years of age & two cars. One **car note** is **\$300.00/month**, while the other is paid for.

They have some bills & have done a good job in budgeting, but they left out the **\$300.00** monthly car note & **\$300.00**/month for allowance at **\$150.00** for each of them. Therefore, the Allocated Spending plan Budget number 1 shows a balance of \$0.00 & is short **\$600.00**. The Allocated Spending plan Budget number 2 placed the **\$300.00** into the budget for the monthly allowance and **\$300.00** each month for the car note while making some spending allocation changes.

You are to take 1 – 2 hours of exercise in placing the expense information given on pages 1 and 2 into the budget # 1 attached to this Tracking and Disciplining example to give you experience in preparing a budget and balancing it out to zero money remaining in line 49. (Do not place the \$300 for the car note nor the \$300 for allowance in the monthly budget; that will be taken care of in Budget # 4.) The purpose of this is to give you exercise as stated in *Hebrews 5:12 (CEB) Although you should have been teachers by now, you need someone to teach you an introduction to the basics about God's message. You have come to the place where you need milk instead of solid food. 13 Everyone who lives on milk is not used to the word of righteousness, because they are babies. 14 But solid food is for the mature, whose senses are trained by practice to distinguish between good and evil.* This exercise can be compared to the Meditation Exercise Model used in meditation of scripture verses. Those that take the time to search out the given scripture and fill out the form completely receive actual revelations from God as compared to those that do not take the time and therefore receive little to no revelation. **Budget number 2** shows the zero-balanced budget from the given expenditures in the model; without the allowance and car note payment. You are given a blank Allocated spending plan for your own personal use in **budget number 3**. The Allocated Spending plan for **Budget number 4** shows paying off the bills in the annual budget. The Allocated Spending plan for **Budget number 5** shows the results of the not having bills to impact your budget and the savings result for **years 2-4. You are this couple's financial counselor; what is your advice to them?** The Allocated Spending plan **budget number 6** shows the savings results over a **10-year period**. I have purposely left out interest benefits and wealth planning in the **number 6 budget**; as that will be dealt with in a few examples and suggestions and teaching regarding compound interest in **budget 7**. (The 1st. 3 lines on the blank budget **number 1** have been completed for you as an example) **The budget must be balanced to zero in the last line!!**

Prosper: i. to grant a prosperous and expeditious journey, to lead by a direct and easy way ii. to grant a successful issue, to cause to prosper iii. to prosper, be successful. www.blueletterbible.org/lang/Lexicon/Lexicon.cfm?strongs

How to Bring the Mind into God's Prosperity

2 Chronicles 20:20 And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper. **Proverbs 23:7A** For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: **Isaiah 55:8** For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. **9** For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. **1 Corinthians 2:16** For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? but we have the mind of Christ. **John 8:31** Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; **32** And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. **Romans 8:14** For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. **Romans 8:26** Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. **27** And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. **Romans 12:2** And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. **Philippians 4:6 (NIV)** Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. **7** And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. **8** Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. **3 John 1:2** Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth. **Romans 13:8** Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

(Hebrews 12:2) Focusing on Excellence; Problems are only Opportunities for Solutions Lloyd E. Wesley Jr.

Allocated Spending Plan Budget Blank Example # 1

Pay Period	A. Week 1 payday person 1 = balance after deduction from line 1	B. Deduction of line cost 1.	C. Week 2 payday person 2 = balance of deduction of line 2	D. Deduction of line cost 2.	E. Week 3 payday person 1 = balance after deduction of line 3	F. Deduction of line cost 3.	G. Week 4 payday person 2 = balance after deduction of line 4	H. Deduction of line cost 4.	I. Miscell- aneous
1. ITEM Gross Income	\$1,930.00		\$2,500.00		\$1,930.00		\$2,500.00		Balance \$8,860.00
2. Net Income	Balance from 1 = \$1,351.00	- Taxes & misc. \$579.00	Balance from 2 = \$1,750.00	- Taxes & misc. \$750.00	Balance from 1 = \$1,351.00	- Taxes & misc. \$579.00	Balance from 4 = \$1,750.00	- Taxes & misc. \$750.00	Balance \$6,202.00
3. Charitable	\$1,128.00	- Tithe & Offering \$223.00	\$1,460.00	- Tithe & Offering \$290.00	\$1,128.00	- Tithe & Offering \$223.00	\$1,460.00	- Tithe & Offering \$290.00	Balance \$1,026.00
4. Saving									Balance
5. (A) Emergency Fund (B) Retirement Fund									Balance
6. College Fund									Balance
7. Miscellaneous									
8. HOUSING 1ST. Mortgage									
9. Real Estate Taxes									
10. Homeowner's Insurance									
11. UTILITIES									
12. (A)Electricity & (B) Gas									
13. (A) Water & (B) Phone									
14. (A)Cable & (B) Internet									
15. FOOD/Grocery									
16. Restaurants									
17. TRANSPORTATION Car Payment # 1A & 2 B									

Pay Period	A. Week 1 payday person 1 = balance after deduction from line 1 fill in \$ _____ brought forward	B. Deduction of line cost (A2) 1.	C. Week 2 payday person 2 = balance after deduction from line 2 fill in \$ _____ brought forward	D. Deduction of line cost (B2) 2.	E. Week 3 payday person 1 = balance after deduction from line 3 fill in \$ _____ brought forward	F. Deduction of line cost (C2) 3.	G. Week 4 payday person 2 = balance after deduction from line 4 fill in \$ _____ brought forward	H. Deduction of line cost (D2) 4.	I. Miscellaneous
18. Car Gas									
19. Car Repairs									Balance
20. Car insurance									
21. (A)License & (B)Taxes									
22. Car Replacement									Balance
23. Clothing/Kids & Adults									Balance
24. (A) Cleaning/ (B)Laundry									Balance
25. Medical Health									
26. Disability Ins.									Balance
27. Health Insurance									
28. Doctor/Dentist & Optom.									Balance
29. PERSONAL									
30. Life Insurance									
31. Child Care									Balance
32. Gym									
33. Hair Care									
34. Education/adult/kids tuition & miscellaneous									
35. Child support/Alimony									Balance
36. Allowance									Balance

Pay Period	A. Week 1 payday person 1 = balance after deduction from line 1 fill in \$ _____ brought forward	B. Deduction of line cost (A2) & balance remaining 1.	C. Week 2 payday person 2 = balance after deduction from line 2 fill in \$ _____ brought forward	D. Deduction of line cost (B2) & balance remaining 2.	E. Week 3 payday person 1 = balance after deduction from line 3 brought forward	F. Deduction of line cost (C2) & balance remaining 3.	G. Week 4 payday person 2 = balance after deduction from line 4 fill in \$ _____ brought forward	H. Deduction of line cost & balance remaining 4.	I. Miscell- aneous
37. Subscriptions/ Organizational dues									
38. Gifts (including Christmas)									Balance
39. RECREATION									
40. Entertainment									Balance
41. Vacation									Balance
42. DEBTS Visa 1/Visa 2									Balance = Balance
43. MasterCard 1/ MasterCard 2									Balance = Balance
44. American Express/ Discover Card									Balance = Balance
45. Gas Card 1/ Gas Card 2									Balance = Balance
46. Dept. Store card 1/ Dept. Store card 2									Balance = Balance
47. Finance Co. 1/ Finance Co. 2									Balance = Balance
48. Student Loan 1 & 2									Balance = Balance
49. Difference	= Balance \$0.00		= Balance \$0.00		= Balance \$0.00		= Balance \$0.00		

If You Fail to Plan, You Plan to Fail