

12 Steps to Financial Freedom

Agenda

- Program Overview
- Key Principles of dfree® Living:
 - Level I—Get Started
 - Level II—Get Control
 - Level III—Get Ahead
 - Level IV—Give Back
- Reinforcement: Billion Dollar Challenge Website
- Commitment, Recognition & Sustainability

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Level III—Get Ahead

WEEK 7—STEP 7 **Maximize the Margin**

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Level III—Get Ahead

The goal of this third level is to complete a total financial plan and prepare for financial self-sufficiency.

Learning Goals

- Explores basic aspects of the Stock Market and considers investment options and actions.
- Advance savings and investing efforts to build meaningful wealth.
- Buying Insurance, Planning, Wills/Estates.
- Ensuring ongoing Accountability and Celebration Your Success.



“He who *is* faithful in *what is* least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in *what is* least is unjust also in much. Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true *riches*? ¹And if you have not been faithful in what is another man’s, who will give you what is your own?” **Luke 16:10-12**

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Step 7: Maximize the Margin

The goal of this session is to address how to accelerate the process of getting out of debt and ensuring your financial future by developing an:

- **Honor System**—Participating in controlled and strategic investment group.
- **Plan your work/work your plan**—Starting from where you are.
- **Rely on community**—Organic community of individuals with a common problem and a shared solution.

Group Discussion Points:

Community Support/Page 114—A shared journey and vision of financial success.

The Price of Prosperity/Page 116—Material possessions as idols.

Full-Throttle Payment/Page 119—Finally having time on your side.

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AlRight TV: “dfree® to be Free”



It Takes A Village: Maximize the Margin | dFree To Be Free Ep. 7

MAXIMIZE THE MARGIN Episode 7

Source: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9UXGGSXsg1Q>

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Learning Topics

- I. Life Situation
 - Claude & Grace: Moving Forward
- II. Uncovering the Chains
 - Getting out of debt quicker
 - Planning a better financial future
- III. Break & Eliminate the Financial Chains
 - Discussing finances as a family
- IV. Victory Story: David and Carrie Unemployed, yet financially optimistic
- V. Commitments and Assignment(s)
 - Identify financial professionals
 - Confirm you're still on-track
 - Lower payments/refinance?
- VI. Home Assignments
 - Read Chapter 8: Minimize the Stress

12 STEPS TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM

dfree® Lifestyle LEVEL THREE – GET AHEAD STEP SEVEN – MAXIMIZE THE MARGIN

Opening prayer: "Dear God, I want to live the way You made me to live. Forgive me for the mistakes I have made and help me live an entire life that pleases You. Amen."

Response: I realize that if I want something I have never had, I must do something I have never done.

LIFE SITUATION – READ AND ANSWER THE QUESTION(S) BELOW: Moving Forward

As the children grew older, their expenses did too. Five children with five unique likes and desires, and cares that included braces, sporting events, cell phones, food, college tuition, clothes, activities, and the ever-growing "I need list." Joshua and Jacob were headed for college. Jacob had a full scholarship because of his academics, and Joshua's scholarship paid for his tuition, but not housing. Financially, this would have been fine for their parents 10 years ago, but life circumstances had changed that. Not only were the twins going to college, everyone else in the family had something that had a price tag.

Claude and Grace did not want to ask their parents again for help. Claude found out that his parents and his in-laws had helped while he was recuperating from his injuries in the fire. Although he was very grateful, he did not want to impose upon them anymore. He planned to pay them back as soon as possible.

In the meantime, Claude and Grace were revising their debt-free plan and making decisions about which of the children's needs or wants could be met. They even met with the twins' respective college financial aid officers to set up payment plans. The twins, Jacob and Joshua, and the girls, DJ, Taylor, and Stacey, were part of the financial planning process as well. Once they better understood what was really happening and the strain the family's finances put on their parents, each one could start to rethink their needs. Each child thought of ways they could financially contribute and started to reassess their spending habits. Jacob and Joshua played music at various social events and produced videos. Taylor wrote songs for the boys to sing. DJ and Stacey increased their babysitting time. The family worked together to make a difference. Hopefully, this will last!

List ways that you can talk with your children, family, or friends (if needed), about financial strategies that will increase your debt-free attitude and behavior.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

II. UNCOVERING THE CHAINS

Our session today is about getting out of debt quicker and planning a better financial future.

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dfree® Strategic Financial Growth Planner

SAY YES TO NO DEBT: Strategic Financial Growth Plan

Name: **Claude and Grace Smith** Date Started: **2/20/16** Debt Free Date: **2/20/19**

Personal Mission Statement:
To use our gifts and expertise to empower others to achieve Financial Freedom and retire in Florida

Financial Position: **\$30K in debt and own a home** GAP: **-\$965,000.00** Financial Goal: **\$935,000.00**

WHAT? GROWTH GOAL	HOW? ACTION STEPS	BY WHEN? SPECIFIC DATES	BY WHOM? RESPONSIBILITY	MEASUREMENT OF SUCCESS	IMPACT
Level I: GET STARTED	1. Admit the Problem Deficit—My expenses exceeds my income				
	2. Address the Mess Confused Spending—Squandering Resources				
	3. Adjust the Attitude Inventory of Expenditures—Eliminate everything that doesn't align with our long-term goals.				
Level II: GET CONTROL	4. Start the Plan Spending Plan vs. Budget—Be more proactive, intentional and aggressive about our Financial Wellness.				
	5. Steer the Power Make Power Payments—Sacrifice today's fleeting pleasures, focus on necessities to gain future security!				
	6. Set the Timer Rule of 72—Leverage financial formulas and interest rates to double savings and investments.				
Level III: GET AHEAD	7. Maximize the Margin Honor System—Get an Accountability Buddy, join an Investment Club and hire a Financial Consultant.				
	8. Minimize the Stress				
	9. Maintain the Focus				
Level IV: GIVE BACK	10. Invest in Others				
	11. Ignite dfree® Living				
	12. Impact the Culture				

TRAINER FEEDBACK (include date)

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Next Steps:

To help you reinforce the lessons you've learned today and prepare for next session's dfree® Lifestyle Campaign class, we ask that you complete the following tasks prior to attending Step 8: Minimize the Stress:

- Read: Chapter 8 Minimize the Stress in *Say Yes To No Debt* book Pages 123—134
- Watch: **Dr. Soaries: The Luke Church—We can win the war against debt.**
(Source: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iOCjW3an6sc&list=PL421FA35FF182344A&index=12>)
- Finish: V Commitments & Assignments 1—7 in DFL workbook Pages 58-59
- Complete: VI Home Assignment in DFL workbook Page 59
- Attend: Next week's session **9/27/17 @ 7:00**