

A Movement for Financial Empowerment

Dr. DeForest B. Soaries Jr.

# 12 Steps to Financial Freedom

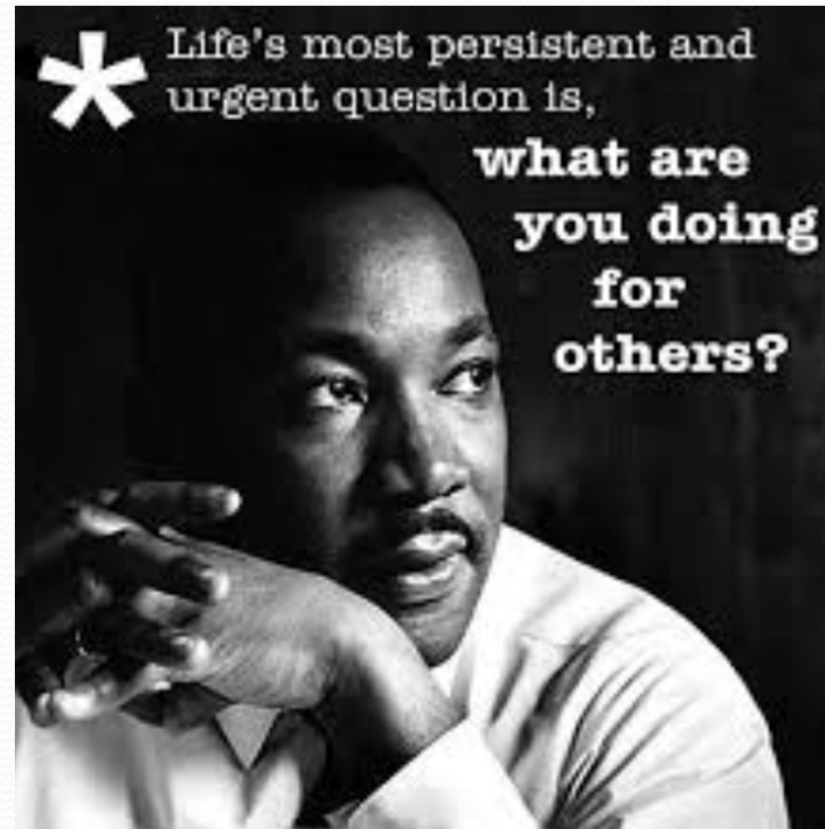
## Agenda

- 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

# 12 Steps to Financial Freedom

## Ice Breaker: Paying It Forward

What are you prepared to do to ensure that as you build your financial standing in the community, you don't make the mistake of valuing money and possessions over your relationship with God and others?





# **12 Steps to Financial Freedom**

## **Level IV—Give Back**

### **WEEK 10—STEP 10** **Invest In Others**

# 12 Steps to Financial Freedom

## Level IV—Give Back

This level is for people who have fully embrace the dfree® Lifestyle and are prepared to learn how to help others achieve Financial Freedom.

### Learning Goals

- Understanding that Tithing, Leading and Mentoring is one of the best ways to honor God's blessing in your life.
- Igniting a dfree® Movement in your community.
- Setting a new standard of excellence, freedom and service to impact culture for meaningful financial change.
- Being a catalyst for achieving Economic Empowerment.



*“The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,<sup>[1]</sup> To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD?” Luke 4:18-19*



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## Step 10: Invest In Others

The goal of this session is to help others achieve financial freedom. At this level you have the unique ability and opportunity to:

- **Trust and Honesty**—In handling money, wealth and true riches.
- **Money Management**—Act of true worship and preparation for Kingdom Building.
- **Mindful Stewardship**—Active, organic part of debt-free living.

### Group Discussion Points:

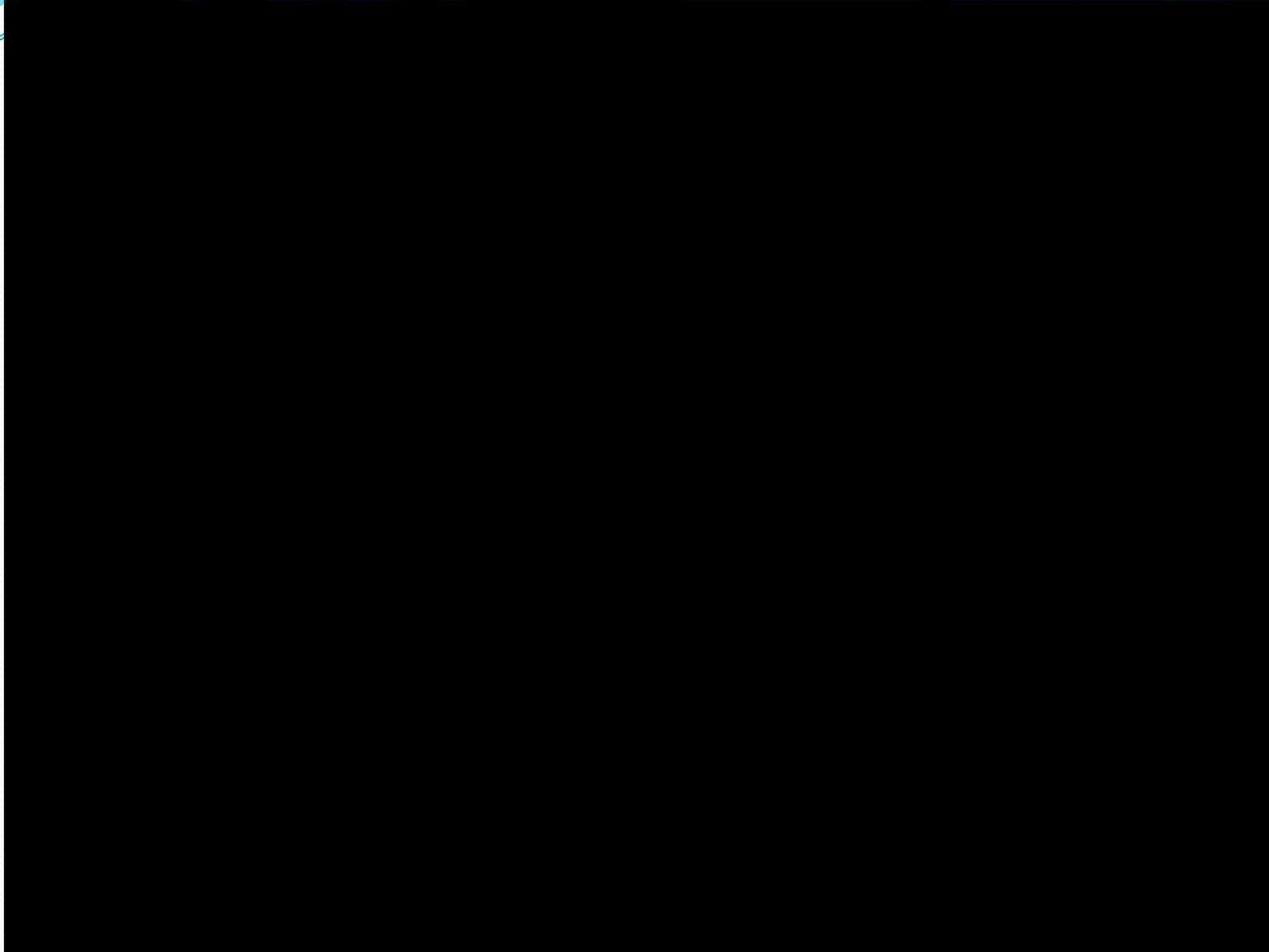
The Tithes That Bind/Page 151—Expression of honor, love, and celebration of God.

Reciprocating God's Support/Page 153—Sense of prioritizing God.

No Quid Pro Quo/Page 156—Exploiting the sacred act of Tithing instead of supporting the work of God.

The Art of Stewardship/Page 158—Tithing in acknowledgment and gratitude for God's blessing on your life.

# 12 Steps to Financial Freedom



**INVEST IN OTHERS Episode 10**

Source: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUL1qJbK1Kg>

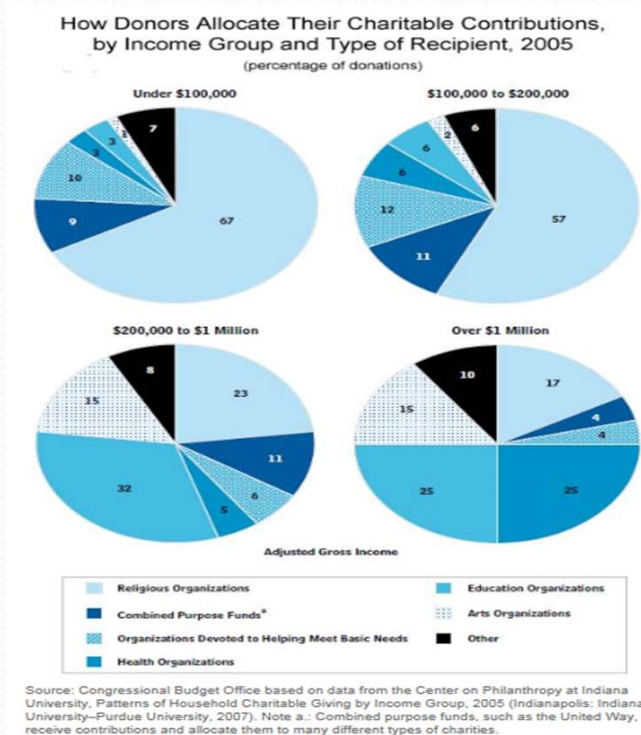
**[www.mydfree.org](http://www.mydfree.org)**

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## Interesting Note

The most noticeable trend is that as income rises, proportional giving to religious organizations falls:



- Households with an adjusted gross income below \$100,000 annually allotted 67% of their charitable giving to **religious** organizations.
- Households earning at least \$1 million annually gave just 17% of their donations to religious organizations. The biggest recipients of this highest income group's donations were instead **educational and health** organizations.

Source: [http://economix.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/10/18/which-americans-are-most-generous-and-to-whom/?\\_r=0](http://economix.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/10/18/which-americans-are-most-generous-and-to-whom/?_r=0)



# 12 Steps to Financial Freedom

## Learning Topics

- I. Life Situation
  - Claude & Grace: Reaching Out to Others
- II. Uncovering the Chains
  - Helping to free others
  - Life-changing impact
  - Excel in the grace of giving
- III. Break & Eliminate the Financial Chains
  - Joshua's New Life
- IV. Victory Story: Patricia—Spending and giving wisely
- V. Commitments and Assignment(s)
  - Sharing lessons and accomplishments
  - Inviting others to join the Billion Dollar Challenge
  - Assistance or gifts
  - Continue daily money management moments
- VI. Home Assignments
  - Read Chapter 11: Ignite dfree® Living

### SAY YES TO NO DEBT

#### dfree® Lifestyle LEVEL FOUR – GIVE BACK STEP TEN – INVEST IN OTHERS

**Opening prayer:** "Dear God, You said that the truly great among us would serve. Give me a servant spirit and help me set at least one captive free. Amen."

**Response:** Others have helped me with my financial journey. Now it is time for me to help others with their journey.

**LIFE SITUATION – READ AND ANSWER THE QUESTION(S) BELOW:** Reaching Out to Others

Jacob and Joshua were doing well in their music and video business. They worked well together and complemented each other. Joshua had a strong business sense and Jacob was very good at marketing and selling their products. Each had a wonderful singing voice and they could play the piano, drums, and other instruments after hearing a song just once. Reading music and adding their own interpretation added a soulful and fun flavor to their sound. Their sisters assisted with costumes and writing songs—especially Taylor—and whatever else they could add. Saving and investing in the business was going well. Some of their friends wanted to know the details of starting a business and their financial success. Joshua and DJ began a small group for young people ages 16-21 who wanted to learn about financial freedom. Their brothers and sisters assisted as needed. Although Grace and Claude were grateful and excited about the "family" business, they couldn't help but think what if...

Let's see if we can think about what concerns Grace and Claude might have and why the siblings are successful. In helping them, we may even help ourselves or someone else we know. Reread their story and answer the following questions. You can do this individually or in groups:

• List possible reasons why Grace and Claude are concerned:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

• Write two challenges that might cause tension or problems for the family businesses:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

• Create two financial goals for the siblings:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

[www.mydfree.org](http://www.mydfree.org)

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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 <b>Deficit—My expenses exceeds my income</b>				
	2. Address the Mess <b>Confused Spending—Squandering Resources</b>				
	3. Adjust the Attitude <b>Inventory of Expenditures—Eliminate everything that doesn't align with our long-term goals.</b>				
Level II: GET CONTROL	4. Start the Plan <b>Spending Plan vs. Budget—Be more proactive, intentional and aggressive about our Financial Wellness.</b>				
	5. Steer the Power <b>Make Power Payments—Sacrifice today's fleeting pleasures, focus on necessities to gain future security!</b>				
	6. Set the Timer <b>Rule of 72—Leverage financial formulas and interest rates to double savings and investments.</b>				
Level III: GET AHEAD	7. Maximize the Margin <b>Honor System—Get an Accountability Buddy, join an Investment Club and hire a Financial Consultant.</b>				
	8. Minimize the Stress <b>Planning Wills/Estate—Write my Will and purchase more insurance if I need it.</b>				
	9. Maintain the Focus <b>dfree® Sundays—Share my testimony in Church this Sunday to inspire others to become dfree®.</b>				
Level IV: GIVE BACK	10. Invest in Others <b>Mindful Stewardship—Catch up on my Tithes and Offerings. Help my parents more.</b>				
	11. Ignite dfree® Living				
	12. Impact the Culture				

TRAINER FEEDBACK (include date)



# 12 Steps to Financial Freedom

## Next Steps:

To help you reinforce the lessons you've learned today and prepare for next week's dfree® Lifestyle Campaign session, we ask that you complete the following task prior to attending Step 11: Ignite dfree® Living:

- Read: Chapter 11 Ignite dfree® Living in *Say Yes To No Debt* book Pages 161—172
- Watch: **Ms. Erin Shelley dfree® Testimony**  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M11kr1rwGLY&feature=youtube\\_gdata](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M11kr1rwGLY&feature=youtube_gdata)
- Finish: V Commitments & Assignments 1—7 in DFL workbook Pages 77-82
- Complete: VI Home Assignment in DFL workbook Page 82
- Attend: Next week's session **11/8/17 @ 7:00**