Smart Finances for Teens and Parents

Overview

- Teens
 - Working
 - Saving
 - Spending

• Parents

- Role in teens' saving and spending
- Tough conversations
- Resources

Three Aspects of Finances

Work

- Obtain your work permit at age 15.
- Start working at least during the summers.

Save

- Pay tithes and offering.
- Pay yourself. Save as much as possible!
- Compounding interest is powerful.

Spending

- Bank accounts
- Credit cards
- Debit cards



Saving: The Power of Compounding Interest





Source: http://www.fdic.gov/consumers/consumer/news/cnsum06/amazing.html

Account Management – Savings and Spending

Bank accounts

- Search for best interest rates.
- Set up direct deposit from your paycheck.
- Do not raid your savings.
- Learn how to write checks and balance your checkbook.
- Do no incur insufficient funds and overdraft charges.

• ATM

- Avoid unnecessary ATM fees by budgeting your withdrawn cash and withdrawing from your bank or affiliated ATM.
- If you withdraw from an unaffiliated ATM, you are charged a fee by your bank and the other bank. You are paying to withdraw your own money!

Spending - Credit and Debit

Credit

- Establish if and ONLY if you are responsible.
- Credit
 - Determines your interest rate when borrowing.
 - Benefits of establishing early.
 - Difficulties in recovering from adverse credit events.
 - Cost of credit when paying just the minimum amount due.

• Debit

- Direct link to bank account.
- May avoid overdrafts.

• Credit vs. Debit

- Liability for fraudulent purchases is usually limited to \$500 on a credit card, but is unlimited on debit cards.
- A debit card does not establish a credit history.

Credit Score Factors (FICO)



These percentages are based on the importance of the five categories for the general population. For particular groups—for example, people who have not been using credit long—the relative importance of these categories may be different.

Source: http://www.myfico.com/crediteducation/whatsinyourscore.aspx

Spending Psychology

Advertisers appeal to four desires:

- The need to be like others (conformity)
- The need to be better than others (superiority)
- The need to be attractive to the others
- The need to have what others have (covetousness)
- Godliness with contentment is great gain. (I Tim. 6:6)

Living on a Budget

Elements of a budget

- Income
- Expenses
- You are off-budget if expenses exceed income.
- Questions
 - Can I afford it?
 - Do I <u>NEED</u> it?
 - Will I still want this next year?
 - Why do I want this?
- Monitoring your budget



Can You Afford It?

- Teenager with a \$50/month allowance wants to buy a bright pink Michael Kors purse for \$209.
- Teenager with a \$7.25/hour job works 10 hours/week and wants rainbow colored Kevin Durant (KD) tennis shoes costing \$155. The last KDs came out four months ago.
- Eighteen-year old wants a car that costs \$8,600. The insurance will be \$2,400/year. Maintenance and gas are additional charges.
- Twenty-year old wants to hang out with friends in Orlando for spring break. The lodging cost per person is \$62/night for five nights. Tuition is due the following week.

Parents' Role in Teen Saving and Spending

- Enforce financial disciplines.
 - No one can have everything he/she wants.
 - We work for what we have.
 - It's never too early to talk to your youth.
 - Everyone must pay tithes.
 - Some things are worth waiting for.
 - Goal is for your teen to learn financial independence.

Tough Conversations

- Discuss financial expectations BEFORE applying for post-high school opportunities.
 - Who will be responsible for college expenses: tuition, room, board, food, books, transportation, etc.? *Parents, you must consider if you will be able to contribute and also meet your financial goals (e.g., retire by a certain age).*
 - If college loans are necessary, whose name will the loan(s) be in? Who will be responsible for paying the loan(s)?

Resources

- <u>http://choosetosave.org/</u> (For parents and teens)
- <u>http://www.moneyasyougrow.org/</u> (Sponsored by the President's Advisory Council)
- <u>http://www.mymoney.gov/Pages/for-youth.aspx</u> (Sponsored by Treasury Dept.)
- Dave Ramsey's Generation Change



Closing and Questions

Thank you for being a hearer and doer!