

PUTTING BACK

Guard Rails: Part 5

February 12, 2023

Pastor Brian

*“The wise man saves for the future, but stupid people spend their money as fast as they get it.”
(Proverbs 21:20, The Living Bible / GNB)*

SAVINGS 101

1. Saving is the **FRUIT** of budgeting.

*“**Plan carefully** and you will have **plenty**; if you act too quickly, you will never have enough.”
(Proverbs 21:5, GNB)*

“Do not save what is left after spending; instead spend what is left after saving.” – Warren Buffet

2. Saving is the opposite of **DEBT**.

*“Watch out and **guard yourselves from every kind of greed**; because a person’s true life is not made up of the things he owns, no matter how rich he may be.” (Luke 12:15, GNB)*

“Never spend your money before you have it.” – Thomas Jefferson

- **Debt PRESUMES upon tomorrow.**

“Do not brag about tomorrow, because you do not know what another day may bring.” (Proverbs 27:1, GW)

“Act your wage.” – Dave Ramsey

- **Saving makes PROVISION for tomorrow.**

*“On the first day of **each week**, you should each **put aside a portion** of the money you have earned.” (1 Corinthians 16:2a, NLT)*

3. Saving is the wisest way to build **WEALTH**.

Parable of the 3 Stewards

“You could have at least put my money in the bank, so that I could have earned interest on it.” (Matthew 25:27, CEV)

TIPS ON INVESTMENTS

1) **DIVERSIFY** your savings.

*“**Put your investments in several places**—many places, in fact—because you never know what kind of bad luck you are going to have in this world.” (Ecclesiastes 11:2, GNB)*

“Don’t put all your eggs in one basket.” – Grandma

2) Use a **GRADED RISK** Strategy.

*“There is another serious problem I have seen everywhere—**savings are put into risky investments** that turn sour, and soon there is nothing left to pass on...” (Ecclesiastes 5:13–14, The Living Bible)*

“Never test the depth of the river with both feet.” – Warren Buffet

“I’m putting all my money in taxes. It’s the only thing guaranteed to go up.” – Mark Twain

WHAT SHOULD I BE SAVING FOR?

1. The **UNEXPECTED** (Emergency Fund/ 3-6 months).

*“There are four animals in the world that are small, but very, very clever: Ants: they are weak, but they **store up their food in the summer.**” (Proverbs 30:24–25, GNB)*

“Pray for the best, prepare for the worst, and expect the unexpected.” – Gary Busey

2. Large, **EXPECTED** expenses (Cars / Christmas / College...).

*“Money earned **little by little** will grow and grow.” (Proverbs 13:11a, CEV)*

3. The **LATER** years (Retirement).

“A good man leaves an inheritance to his children’s children...” (Proverbs 13:22a, ESV)

“If you will live like no one else, later you can live like no one else.” – Dave Ramsey

4. The **KINGDOM**.

*“Tell those who are rich not to be proud and not to trust in their money...Tell them to use their money to do good...By doing this they will be **storing up real treasure** for themselves in heaven—it is the only safe investment for eternity!” (1 Timothy 6:17-19, The Living Bible)*

“No one would remember the Good Samaritan if he didn’t have money.” – Margaret Thatcher

ACTION STEPS

1. \$1,000 Emergency Fund.
2. Sinking Funds.
3. 3-6 months in savings.
4. 15% into retirement.