

Generous

2 Corinthians 9:6-8,10-11

⁶Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work

¹⁰Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

In order to be generous become debt free will liberate you.
Becoming debt free liberates you to become wildly generous.

Unpack Text

- I want this for you.
- I want you to be wildly generous on every occasion.
- We have to change our habits and change our mind.

Habit to change

I. Destroy debt

A. Debt is not your friend.

1. I realize that there are those who use debt as leverage for investment.
2. There are those who say – I can borrow money at a rate of 8% and get a return on investment of 18%.
3. Why would I not borrow money?

Romans 13:8

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. (ESV)

Proverbs 22:7

The rich rule over the poor,
and the borrower is slave to the lender. (NIV)

How to be wildly generous

To be generous you have to

US National Debt

36.22 trillion

36,220,000,000,000

To pay that back in 2025 years

- \$44,945,000 per day
 - \$2,042,000 per hour
 - The current national debt is costing...
- Debt Per Person: This equates to \$106,024 for every person living in the U.S.
 - Debt Per Household: The national debt is also equivalent to \$273,567 for every household in the U.S.
 - That is \$201,336,994 for every person who file taxes.
 - 2025 projections - \$952 billion in annual interest alone.
 - The interest alone cost every person in America \$2,800 this year
 - The interest payment on the national debt cost every taxpayer \$7,076 last year.
 - And unless we change directions in 10 years the interest alone will cost every tax payer in America \$10,500 a year.

National Debt

- Another way to contextualize the growth in interest costs: right now, the Treasury pays about \$2.6 billion per day, on average, for interest.
- And unless we change course...
That will rise to \$4.9 billion per day in 2035.
- Over the next 10 years we are projected to spend \$13.8 trillion dollars in interest on the national debt.

\$13.8 trillion is:

- Roughly \$40,500 per person.
- Nearly twice what the government spent on net interest between 2005 and 2024.

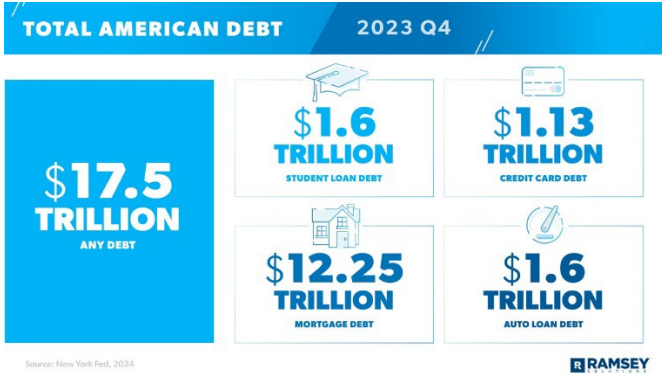
Is this fair?

Is this the right thing to do?

This is not biblical?

A. Debt is not from the LORD

1. The borrower is subject to the lender



AVERAGE AMERICAN DEBT PER HOUSEHOLD
(with this type of debt)

| Type of Debt | Debt Total | Average Debt Per Household (with this type of debt) |
|-------------------|------------------|--|
| Any Debt | \$17.5 trillion | \$179,850 |
| Credit Card Debt | \$1.13 trillion | \$19,865 |
| Student Loan Debt | \$1.6 trillion | \$58,408 |
| Auto Loan Debt | \$1.6 trillion | \$36,832 |
| Mortgage Debt | \$12.25 trillion | \$230,905 |

Source: New York Fed, 2024; U.S. Census Bureau, 2024; Federal Reserve, 2024

RAMSEY

Illustration

- Buying a car.
- How much can you afford a month?

Rich people ask – How much?

Broke people ask – How much down and how much a month?

New Car

- Average monthly payment - \$742
- Average Loan amount - \$41,572.00
- Average Rate - 6.35%
- Average loan 67.98 months
- Total loan payments \$49,607.81
- **Total interest cost \$8,035.81**

Used Car

- Average car payment \$525
- Average loan amount - \$26,468
- Average rate - 11.62%

- Average loan 67.2 months.
- Total loan payment \$36,099.53
- **Total interest cost \$9,631.53**

Question

1. Last week we established that God owns it all and that I am a manager of his money.
2. Do you believe that God is pleased with how much of HIS money his children pay in interest?

What if...

Average American will pay over \$163,000 in interest over their lifetime not including a mortgage.

- Average S&P 500 has had a rate of return of 11.95% over the last 50 years.
- If instead of paying that money in interest over your lifetime you paid cash for everything and then invested the \$163,000 in the S&P 500 which has averaged 11.95% over the last 50 years.
- If you assumed that fees would cost you 2.5% annually your rate of return would be 9.45% over the last 50 years.
- Take that same money and invest it over a 50 year period at \$271 per month earning 9.45% here is what you would have by investing only the money you paid someone else in interest.
- \$3,828,076.01
- \$3,665,475

Proverbs 6:5

Free yourself, like a gazelle from the hand of the hunter,
like a bird from the snare of the fowler.

II. Reject poverty

Proverbs 21:20

The wise have wealth and luxury,
but fools spend whatever they get. (NLT)

1. Stop thinking like a broke poor person and start thinking like a debt free blessed person.

Reject

Proverbs 19:17

If you help the poor, you are lending to the LORD—
and he will repay you! (NLT)

A poverty mentality says – What can I afford.

A bless mentality says – What is the best thing I can do with this money.

Do you have a spending problem?

Don't eat your seed.

Illustration

- Seeds do not grow overnight
- Seeds take time to develop

It's time to get mad enough to change.

Think God's thoughts about money.

Create New Thoughts on Generosity.

- A. Think like you are blessed.
- B. God wants me to be generous
- C. Giving doesn't hurt – giving is a blessing
 1. You have heard – "Give until it hurts"
 2. Why would you say that.
 3. It implies that at some point generosity is painful.

Dave Ramsey Baby Steps

Step 1 – Emergency Fund

- Save \$1,000 for your starter emergency fund

Scrape every penny you can together until you save \$1,000.

Spend nothing.

Look for extra work.

Sell stuff

Whatever you have to do.

Step 2 – Debt Snowball Method

- Pay off all debt except the house

1: List your debts from smallest to largest (regardless of interest rate).

2: Make minimum payments on all your debts except the smallest debt.

3: Throw as much extra money as you can on your smallest debt until it's gone.

4: Take what you were paying on your smallest debt and add that to your payment on the next-smallest debt until it's gone.

5: Repeat until each debt is paid in full and you're completely debt-free!

Step 3

- Save 3–6 months of expenses in a fully funded emergency fund.

As you knock out your debts one by one, the amount of money you have to throw at the rest of your debt grows—kind of like a snowball rolling down a hill (hence the name).

And the excitement you get from paying off your smallest debt super quick will motivate you to keep plowing through your debt, all the way to that debt-free finish line!