





e all know money is important in life. But how important is the question. In fact, the financial decisions you make today may have a lasting effect on your future. Rather than feeling anxious about money, we need to feel more empowered by learning how to make smart decisions. Personal Finance will begin the conversation around how to spend and save your money wisely, investing in safe opportunities and for the days ahead.

Learning key financial concepts around taxes, credit, and money management will provide both understanding and confidence as you begin to navigate your own route to future security. Discover how education, career choices, and financial planning can lead you in the right direction to making your life simpler, steadier, and more enjoyable.

While many are aware of their personal financial situations such as their income, debt, employment status and budgets, many individuals are less aware of the connections between their finances and the overall economy.

Many factors affect our personal economic situations. Some of these factors are individual ones that we create through our own actions. Other factors are more all-encompassing and largely outside of our control, like government and economic policies, political factors, etc.

Financial Responsibility

Throughout our lives, we make financial decisions. We decide which items to buy and which ones not to buy. We decide how much money to save and how much money to spend. Some of our decisions will be good ones financially, and other decisions will be less financially responsible. Irrespective of anything, we must take responsibility.

Savings and Investment

As we work towards our financial goals, we often need to save and invest our money in order to reach these goals. Savings account can help us accumulate money for an emergency or for a purchase that we like to make. Investing is a common way of trying to grow one's money for longer term financial goals, such as retirement and old age. Although investing can seem overwhelming with all of the choices available, learning more about these areas can help you reach your financial goals. The emphasis here is "learn the business you want to invest your money in".

It is good to invest more and save less. You can put your money into investment ventures (businesses) like poultry farming and other agricultural-related businesses depending on the environment, or buy safe securities like treasury bills, fixed deposits, government bonds, other money market instruments, shares, etc. In fact, it is advisable to get more than one stream of income.

Risk

It is pertinent to note that there is no investment or business without risk. Risk is inevitable in the business world, but can be minimized by taking right decisions at the right time, and not despising pieces of good advice from business and finance managers; as it is usually said, experience is the best teacher. When you take business risk and you are successful, you can lead. If you lose, do not lose the lesson; you can guide and do better the next time.

Tax Planning

We all need to pay taxes because it is a fundamental civic responsibility of every citizen. Taxes serve an important function in society by providing money for government services and infrastructure, such as roads, public utilities, and public buildings. Although we all end up paying taxes, we may not always understand exactly how taxes work. Every income we make, the tax authority wants to have a bite out of it; like the company income tax, education tax, value added tax, capital gains tax on asset disposal etc.

The most important thing to note is that, tax planning in business is KEY and cannot be despised, for ease of doing business and accountability.

Managing Finances and Budgeting

One of the most important aspects of money management for individuals is learning how to successfully track and budget their money. Doing so allows us to not only know our financial situation, but to plan for the future and our financial goals; and to avoid situations



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where we might run out of money. Generally, an average business person needs at least basic accounting knowledge to manage his finances. Such knowledge includes but not limited to keeping simple financial records, creating personal financial statements, and budgeting money.

Concluding Remarks

In conclusion, the bible says in Psalm 1:3 that we are like trees planted by the streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers. As we journey into the future, we should give paramount attention to our personal

finances and investment so that we can have financial freedom and independence. As we do this and pray assiduously for success in our endeavors, may the good Lord grant us long life, peace, good health, wealth and our heart desires in the mighty name of Jesus. Amen.

Youth Fellowship & Children Ministry



District Chairman, 30th Anniversary & Harvest Committees and the entire members of C&S Movement Church, Dakibiyu District HQ, Abuja on her





