



**Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for the lack of knowledge**



## **EVERYONE BUYS ON TIME BUT FEW PAY ON TIME!**

People don't start their life with bad credit, sometimes things happen beyond our control like for ex: losing a job, an accident, emergencies, bills piling up, etc. The Bible says we should be lenders and not borrowers. There is a very good reason for this advice. Borrowers are slaves to the lender. After you pay your debt, then you're free. Arm your self with information. People pay big money for information. Okay let's get started.

### **Knowledge Power Tip #1:**

1. Get a copy of your credit report. You can get a free copy of your report if you have been turned down for credit. It has to be in the past 60 days.
2. Write to one of the big three national credit bureaus or all three. (Provided that your State authorizes free reports.)
3. To just get a report for your files there is a fee they'll charge just to simply have one sent to you. They have to process the information. However you'll have to supply your name, address, and social security number and a piece of mail with your current address. Write to:

Equifax  
PO Box 105873  
Atlanta, Ga 30348  
(800) 685-1111  
(800) 997-2493  
www.equifax.com

Transunion  
PO Box 390  
Springfield, Pa. 19064  
(800) 888-4213  
(800) 888-4213  
www.transunion.com

Experian  
PO Box 2104  
Allen, TX 75013  
(800) 682-7654  
(888) 397-3742  
www.experian.com

Why get a credit report?

4. The advantage of having your credit report is some information being reported on you could be erroneous or wrong. If you find an error just use the **Disputing Credit Report Form** in this course. If you dispute a creditor and the agency doesn't respond to you within 30 days after you have submitted the dispute form, The report will read, "Item Deleted, subscriber did not verify. They simply didn't feel like looking up your account. Which also reminds me always dispute your oldest account first

**Eccl. 7:1** says, A good name is better than precious ointments.

We do care about what people think sometimes because its only human to do so. Jesus himself asked the disciples a question. Who do men say that I am? Who do ye say that I am? He acknowledges not only what others were saying, but also what His own said about Him as well. The answer was Thou art the Christ, son of the living God. If you believe who you are in Jesus name, the Holy Spirit will always give the correct response. It doesn't matter what the world says, it only matters what God says and what you believe. Now let's take a look at what you will find on your credit report.

**Requesting Credit Report**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Reporting Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

To Whom It May Concern:

\_\_\_ I recently applied for credit and have been denied.

I am requesting my free copy of my credit report since I have been turned down within the last 60 days. I would like to try and fix this situation so that I may be considered in the future.

\_\_\_ I am requesting a copy of my credit report. I have enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as required in the state of \_\_\_\_\_.

Additional verification information as follows: Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_

Account number \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_ I now have as other proof.

Sincerely,

**COPY THIS SHEET AND USE AS NEEDED.**



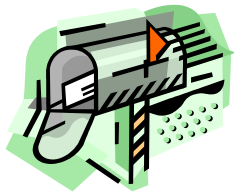
### ITEMS YOU'LL FIND ON YOUR CREDIT REPORT:

1. **Identification:** Complete name, current and last address, social security number, birth date, marital status, your age, any dependents, whether you rent, own or lease, time at residence, job type, job time, (also self employed or unemployed), checking/savings accounts, and car accts.
2. **Public Record:** Bad check, judgments, bankruptcies, tax liens, medical bills, utility bills, uncollected rent, and other types of filings.
3. **Inquiries:** Each time you give any merchant or business your social security number they request your credit file from one of the bureaus. It is reported on your file and can stay on your file up to a year. If creditors see too many inquiries with no open credit accounts, they will assume you were turned down and not even know what the true explanation was.

### Unfavorable credit information that can damage your credit score is:

- ✓ Short time on job and residence
- ✓ Not enough income,
- ✓ Excessive number of accounts, not enough established accts,
- ✓ Slow payments,
- ✓ High debt to income ratio,
- ✓ Credit counseling and of course filing for bankruptcy.
- ✓ Typos and confusing your name with someone else with a similar name
- ✓ Brand new credit or not enough credit on file, or your accounts are too new.

There are a lot of people in one of these situations. But don't let this stop you from getting control of your credit. Keep persist and keep copies of all your correspondence. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope when you write to them and an extra copy of the letter. They can delete any information they want so don't believe them when they tell you that the law forbids them to do so. That's a lie. But if you don't know what you're talking about, I wouldn't listen to you either. That's why you gather all the facts first, then proceed with the information that you have with confidence. Remember to be nice to these people because they can either be your best friend or your worst enemy.

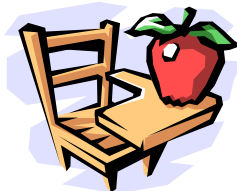


## **Here are some additional Credit Repair Letters**

TOPICS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. **Disputing Credit Report:** This letter is used to correct errors in your file.
2. **Paid Judgment to Creditor:** This letter is used when you have a receipt for paid judgments.
3. **Incorrect Data letter:** This letter is used when the creditors (the people you once owed) send the wrong information to the credit bureau. You should have copies of your paid receipts or canceled checks. Make copies and you keep the originals.
4. **Credit File Reporting Error:** This letter is used when the credit bureau(s) is reporting the wrong information, and you have proof from the creditor.
5. **30 Days Response Letter:** This letter is used when the credit bureau has not responded to your request in the allotted amount of time by law.
6. **No Solicitation Letter:** This letter is used when you want to ask the bureau to remove your name from receiving junk mail.

THROUGHOUT THIS COURSE YOU WILL SEE MORE LETTERS TO USE.  
SOME ARE SET UP BY THE TOPICS BEING TAUGHT IN VARIOUS CHAPTERS,  
AS TO TRY TO KEEP CONSISTENCY WITH THE TRAINING.



**Disputing Credit Report**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Reporting Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

To Whom It May Concern:

I've recently received a copy of my credit report and discovered the following error(s):

1. This account is in error because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The report should read \_\_\_\_\_.

2. This account is in error because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The report should read \_\_\_\_\_.

3. This account is in error because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The report should read \_\_\_\_\_.

I would really appreciate you if these errors were corrected. Please contact me within thirty days.  
I will be looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

**COPY THIS SHEET AND USE AS NEEDED.**

**Paid judgment to Creditor**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Reporting Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

To Whom It May Concern:

I've recently received a copy of my credit report and discovered the following error(s):

This judgment is paid. The confirmed date is \_\_\_\_\_ for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would really appreciate you if these errors were corrected. Please contact me within thirty days.

I will be looking forward to hearing from you. . Please send me a copy of the correspondence of your actions regarding this matter as well as reporting this correction to the credit reporting agencies. I really thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

**COPY THIS SHEET AND USE AS NEEDED.**

**Incorrect Data letter to Creditor**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Reporting Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

To Whom It May Concern:

I've received a copy of my credit report and in regard to my account \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, number \_\_\_\_\_. This information was reported in  
error as \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

The data should be listed as \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

I had informed the credit reporting agencies of this error and to verify that the correct information be posted. Since you didn't verify the correct information, I would appreciate your immediate action. Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act I'm prepared to enforce my rights if you do not report the corrected information to this or these agencies. Please send me a copy of the correspondence of your actions regarding this matter. I really thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

**COPY THIS SHEET AND USE AS NEEDED.**

**Credit File Reporting Error**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Reporting Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

To Whom It May Concern:

I've recently received a copy of my credit report and discovered the following error(s):  
The error is report or file number: \_\_\_\_\_. I have also informed the creditor and they acknowledged the error. I have enclosed written proof as conformation. I would really appreciate you if these errors were corrected. Please contact me within thirty days. I will be looking forward to hearing from you. . Please send me a copy of the correspondence of your actions regarding this matter. I really thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

**COPY THIS SHEET AND USE AS NEEDED.**



**30 days Response Request Letter**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Reporting Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

To Whom It May Concern:

I have not received any correspondence within the thirty day time period concerning the error(s) on my credit file. Enclosed is a copy of the letter I sent to you regarding this matter. The items of concern are still as follows:

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

I would really appreciate you if these errors were corrected soon. I will be looking forward to hearing from you. Please send me a copy of the correspondence of your actions regarding this matter. I really thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

**COPY THIS SHEET AND USE AS NEEDED.**

**No Solicitation Letter**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Reporting Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

To Whom It May Concern:

Please remove my name from release to companies who solicit their services to me. I don't want to be called on by these companies nor receive their junk mail and any other promotional literature.

Sincerely,

**COPY THIS SHEET AND USE AS NEEDED.**



## **Your local bank is a good place to start**

Good credit is essential today because we sometimes buy things that require financing and when you have bad credit it seems almost impossible to do. There are close to 2,000 credit bureaus in the United States. Subscribers are the many businesses that pay to obtain your credit information in a bureau's files. Subscribers believe the information in your file is a good indication of you, and your credit worthiness. Subscribers also use your credit file to verify the information you have provided, making sure your credit report is up-to-date. This course shows you how to get your credit report and updates of your report work to for you.

### **What's a scoring system?**

### **How do I improve my current situation?**

### **How can a bank help me repair my credit?**

The world system says buy now and pay later. Charge it or put it on my account.  
Jesus said in Luke 14:28, does a man build a tower with out first sitting down to count the cost?  
If we would just heed this information today, how much better financially would we be?

Business's check to see if you're lying, so you should check to see if they're lying. A good credit report shows that you have the ability to pay back loans on time and if you do.

Banks use several ways to do determine how much a risk factor you are by the information in your credit file.

- ✓ Some banks hire loan officers to judge your credit worthiness.
- ✓ Banks, finance companies, credit unions, car and mortgage dealers use a scoring system.
- ✓ They all look at your income to see how much credit you can buy or afford. (20% of your total yearly salary is the norm but not the law.

### **Let's look at a generic scoring system:**

**An Internal Generic Scoring System**

Review the questions, add up the points, and compare the totals to the scoring list to see how you stack up. You may find that you were not as bad as you thought.

| <b>Factors</b>   | <b>Points</b> |
|--|---------------|
| 1) Time at present job:  |               |
| a) Less than one year  | 0             |
| b) One to two years  | 1             |
| c) Two to four years   | 2             |
| d) Four to ten years   | 3             |
| e) Over ten years  | 4             |
| 2) Monthly income:   |               |
| a) Less than \$1,000   | 0             |
| b) \$1,000 to \$1,500  | 1             |
| c) \$1,500 to \$2,000  | 2             |
| d) Over \$2,000  | 3             |
| 3) Present/Past due:   |               |
| a) Yes               (present)   | 1             |
| b) No               (past due)   | 0             |
| 4) Total monthly debt to income (after taxes):                         |               |
| a) 50%   | 0             |
| b) 40% to 49%  | 1             |
| c) 30% to 39%  | 2             |
| d) under 30%   | 3             |
| 5) Previous loans with lender:   |               |
| a) No  | 0             |
| b) Yes, but not closed   | 0             |
| c) Yes, but closed, or with<br>two or fewer 11-day<br>notices per year | 1             |
| 6) Checking account:   |               |
| a) None  | 0             |
| b) Yes, few rejections   | 1             |
| c) Yes, with no rejections   | 2             |
| 7) Length at present or previous address:                              |               |
| a) Less than two years   | 0             |
| b) Two years or more   | 1             |

| Factors                         | Points |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| 8) Age of newest automobile:    |        |
| a) Over one year old            | 0      |
| b) Less than one year old       | 1      |
| 9) Savings account with lender: |        |
| a) No                           | 0      |
| b) Yes                          | 1      |
| 10) Own real estate:            |        |
| a) No                           | 0      |
| b) Yes                          | 3      |
| 11) Telephone in own name:      |        |
| a) No                           | 0      |
| b) Yes                          | 1      |
| 12) Good credit references:     |        |
| a) No                           | 0      |
| b) Yes                          | 1      |

These questions will vary from bank to bank, sometimes within the same bank depending economic conditions and competition. When loan money is abundant, they won't be as strict as when loan money is tight.

Now in this example, you can score a possible 22 points. The guidelines to the loan officer might read like this:

**0-11 points** (0-50 percent of possible points):

*Immediate turn down. Don't even waste time on this application.*

**12-13 points** (50-60 percent of possible points):

*Proceed with caution. Don't approve unless other good reasons indicate that credit should be allowed.*

**14-15 points** (60-70 percent of possible points):

*Can possibly consider toward approval. (This is the typical consumer and indicates a reasonable risk.)*

**16-20 points** (70-90 percent of possible points):

*Good risk unless there is good reason to decline.*

**21-22 points** (90-100 percent of possible points):

*Automatic approval, Solid Gold as the car business says it in So. Carolina*

Depending on your number you can be accepted or rejected. Don't give up hope. You may be able to get a loan with some collateral, or a *co-signer*. An example: if parents co-sign.

Still only a loan officer knows what he or she will do regardless of the points. It's always good to know somebody. Now that you have an idea of the internal system, you can begin to attack some problem areas!



## *We The People have our Rights Too!*

Now that you have your credit report, you are now ready to repair your credit rating.

**Step One:** Know your legal rights. This is what you do if your credit report contains false, misleading or incomplete information? The Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), 15 USC sections 1681a through 1681t, protects you against credit abuse error only, not neglect. Knowing the following basic rights is vital if you are to have success to fully erase the negative marks on your credit report and regain your good credit status:

**The Law Says:**

1. You can challenge the accuracy of your credit report any time you want.
2. The bureau must investigate anything that you challenge.
3. They have 30 days. The period begins when the bureau receives the notice from the consumer. The exception to the 30-day rule is: when the consumer sends additional materials within the 30-day time period. The credit bureau can extend the deadline an extra 15 days.
4. If they find any error, it must be promptly deleted from its files and yours.
5. If the credit bureau does not confirm the challenged information in a reasonable time frame, it must delete that information also from your files.
6. If the creditor verifies the information is indeed correct and the bureau responds in the allotted time, the negative marks will remain on your credit report. If you insist that the information is in error, you have the right to submit a Consumer Statement to 100 words and put it in your credit file with your own explanation of the problem.

Now that you know your rights, Let's work!





## FIND AND IDENTIFY YOUR CREDIT PROBLEMS

1. High light and circle all negative remarks and check the dates to see if the accounts are more than seven years old. (sounds like God's sabbatical year and the year of jubilee to me. More on that possibly later)
2. Organization and good record keeping is a must. List each creditor on the **Count The Cost Debt Sheet** in this course.
3. Look at each and apply the corresponding letter. The letters give an explanation and apology for your negligence. (You need the creditor on your side too).
4. If the bill was indeed paid, and you have copies of receipts or cancelled checks, you can ask for a more favorable status in your credit report from them.
5. Always send letter's certified mail to the creditor as well as the bureaus with a return address envelope and make copies to keep for your files.
6. The letters need to be signed by the person you have been working with to verify their accuracy
7. After 30 to 60 days order another credit report and make sure your instructions were followed.
8. Don't forget to use the telephone, be persistent and bug them as much as a telemarketer bugs you. Always get a name of whom you spoke with. It's a good idea to note their personality because the Lord will lead you to the right person who can help as long as you keep your cool.
9. Wait, be persistent, and then wait some more. It doesn't matter how long it takes, wait on the Lord.
10. You may find months go by, and when you call back, there is a new person in the office. It's okay, just press on and press on and press on. After all, it took time to get bad credit, it's going to take time for the good credit to surface. Be persistent.

COUNT THE COST DEBT SHEET

|                | CREDITOR | ITEM  | ACCOUNT NUMBER | BALANCE | PAYMENTS |
|----------------|----------|-------|----------------|---------|----------|
| 1.             | _____    | _____ | _____          | _____   | _____    |
| 2.             | _____    | _____ | _____          | _____   | _____    |
| 3.             | _____    | _____ | _____          | _____   | _____    |
| 4.             | _____    | _____ | _____          | _____   | _____    |
| 5.             | _____    | _____ | _____          | _____   | _____    |
| 6.             | _____    | _____ | _____          | _____   | _____    |
| 7.             | _____    | _____ | _____          | _____   | _____    |
| 8.             | _____    | _____ | _____          | _____   | _____    |
| 9.             | _____    | _____ | _____          | _____   | _____    |
| 10.            | _____    | _____ | _____          | _____   | _____    |
| 11.            | _____    | _____ | _____          | _____   | _____    |
| 12.            | _____    | _____ | _____          | _____   | _____    |
| 13.            | _____    | _____ | _____          | _____   | _____    |
| 14.            | _____    | _____ | _____          | _____   | _____    |
| 15.            | _____    | _____ | _____          | _____   | _____    |
| <b>TOTALS:</b> |          |       |                | _____   | _____    |

Count the cost, list the debts and pay the smallest balances first. Then pay the larger balances as you have available cash. Try listing your most pressing debt first. You'll find yourself organizing and paying those debts in order.

**COPY THIS SHEET AND USE AS NEEDED.**



COUNT THE COST: FOLLOW UP LOG

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Company:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Account Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of letter sent:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Company:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Account Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of letter sent:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Company:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Account Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of letter sent:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Use this form to contact the business or (original creditor). Write the business name, phone number, and get the name of whom you spoke with. Write in your account number, log which letter you used and write down what was said in the comments section. Keep accurate dates and records. Organization is key!

**COPY THESE SHEETS AND USE AS NEEDED.**

COUNT THE COST BUDGET PLAN

HOME EXPENSES

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Tithe                   | _____ |
| Offerings               | _____ |
| Mortgage/Rent           | _____ |
| Home/Renter's Insurance | _____ |
| Automobile              | _____ |
| Savings                 | _____ |
| Food                    | _____ |
| Home Repairs            | _____ |
| Gas                     | _____ |
| Electric                | _____ |
| Telephone               | _____ |
| Cable                   | _____ |
| Supplies                | _____ |
| Furniture               | _____ |
| Garbage                 | _____ |
| Lawn/Garden             | _____ |
| Daycare                 | _____ |

PERSONAL EXPENSE

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Wardrobe                 | _____ |
| Shoes                    | _____ |
| Perfumes/Cologne         | _____ |
| Barber/Beauty            | _____ |
| Laundry/Cleaners         | _____ |
| Insurance                | _____ |
| Medical                  | _____ |
| Entertainment/Recreation | _____ |
| Birthday                 | _____ |
| Anniversary              | _____ |
| Holidays                 | _____ |
| School Loans             | _____ |

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| Other: _____ | _____ |
| Other: _____ | _____ |
| Other: _____ | _____ |
| Other: _____ | _____ |
| Other: _____ | _____ |

CREDIT CARD EXPENSE

|       |
|-------|
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |

|       |
|-------|
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |

OTHER DEBT

|       |
|-------|
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |

|       |
|-------|
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |

TOTAL EXPENSES                      \_\_\_\_\_

COUNT THE COST SPENDING SHEET

Month: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

| Date      | Purchased Item | Count the Cost | Total |
|-----------|----------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. _____  | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 2. _____  | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 3. _____  | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 4. _____  | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 5. _____  | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 6. _____  | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 7. _____  | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 8. _____  | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 9. _____  | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 10. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 11. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 12. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 13. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 14. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 15. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 16. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 17. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 18. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 19. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 20. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |

COUNT THE COST SPENDING SHEET

Month: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

| Date      | Purchased Item | Count the Cost | Total |
|-----------|----------------|----------------|-------|
| 21. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 22. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 23. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 24. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 25. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 26. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 27. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 28. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 29. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 30. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 31. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 32. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 33. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 34. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 35. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 36. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 37. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 38. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 39. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |
| 40. _____ | _____          | _____          | _____ |

**Counting Cost Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

Counting the cost by reviewing your spending habits over the last month will sure open your eyes to what you spend money on during the month.

Try keeping your receipts and cancelled checks. This is a great way to track your money. You'll find extra money right in front of your face on these sheets if you will just apply what you learn!

**COPY THESE SHEETS AND USE AS NEEDED.**



## Serious No No's Of Debt Collectors

UNTIL I CAN GET SETTLED, HOW DO I STOP THE ANNOYING PHONE CALLS?

**Matt. 5:25** Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison. (26) Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing. This is why Jesus said what He did in Rom. 13:8- "Owe no man anything.



Jesus was never in debt but He had bills to pay and He paid on time. Luke 20:20-26 Render unto Caesar, that which is Caesars, and unto God that which is God's. Another example can be found in **Matt. 17:24-27**. (24) And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute *money* came to Peter, and said, Doth not your master pay tribute? (25) He saith, yes. And when he was come into the house, Jesus prevented him, saying, what thinkest thou, Simon? Of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? Of their own children, or of strangers? (26) Peter saith unto him, of strangers. Jesus saith unto him, then are the children free. (27) Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee.

Under The Fair Debt Collection Practices Act of 1977 & updated in 1986, there are basic rules for collectors and debtors. Collectors may not use:

1. Intimidation, Acts of violence or criminal acts (loan sharks).
2. Call all hours of the day & night. Only at 8:00 am to 9:00 pm
3. Threaten to call the police, your boss, co-workers, relatives or friends.
4. Harass you to fear and causing you mental anguish.
5. Misleading representation-like claiming to be government or consumer agencies.
6. Claim they have a judgment against you, when they really don't
7. They can't claim your debt is secured by collateral when it isn't.
8. They cannot garnish your wages,
9. Use phony documents to try and collect debts.
10. Charge more money than they're suppose to, unless your contract states a late fee clause.
11. Take your property, when your property is exempt from repossession. (Except if the loan is automotive.)
12. Tell you to send post dated checks,



## What They Can Do

The Fair Debt Collection Act does allow Collectors to contact you about your bill:

1. By phone,
2. By mail,
3. By telegram,
4. In person. (This one varies from time to time)

However a post card is prohibited. Its contents are not concealed from others seeing your personal information.

They can contact “outsiders” in certain conditions. Such as:

- A. References as to your whereabouts (or any debtor for that matter)
- B. Get a court order to authorize contact.
- C. Try to sue you for the debt and any legal fees and court cost if you indeed go to trial. Which brings me to this, if you’re summons to court, you better appear, Because if you don’t show up, they will win by default, and then you could begin losing property and garnishment of wages. Remember by appearing in court you may be able to get a payment plan on the spot. The judge can’t make you pay what you don’t have, so this may be in your favor.

Creditors are no different now than they were in the biblical days. They simply want what’s do them. You made a covenant with them in the form of:

1. Your word
2. Your promise
3. Your vow
4. Or your signature

You agreed to the terms and conditions, and as far as God is concerned your bound.

Maybe had you PRAYED about this decision, you wouldn’t be in the mess you’re in!

Here’s proof of how God feels about the matter

**Ec 5:5** Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay. (6) Suffer not thy mouth to cause thy flesh to sin; neither say thou before the angel, that it was an error: wherefore should God be angry at thy voice, and destroy the work of thine hands? (7) For in the multitude of dreams and many words there are also divers vanities: but fear thou God. (8) If thou seest the oppression of the poor, and violent perverting of judgment and justice in a province, marvel not at the matter: for he that is higher than the highest regardeth; and there be higher than they.

David echoes this truth by saying he has never seen the righteous forsaken, nor His seed begging bread.

Here’s a letter for some relief from collections agencies. This does not apply to your mortgage, automobile, or utility bills etc.

## EXAMPLE LETTER

### CEASE AND DESIST LETTER

To: The debtor or collection agency. Company and address

RE: The balanced owed on debt (credit cards, etc)

To whom it may concern:

The Fair Debt Collection Practices Act also the Public Laws 95-109 and 99-361, is being exercised, as it is my right to do so. I'm informing you that you and your company are no longer required.

- A. This company must Cease and Desist every attempt in trying to collect this debt. If you fail to do so, I will file a complaint to the Federal Trade Commission. I will also inform the States Attorney General Office.
- B. I'm also informing you that I may record our telephone conversations in the future if you continue to call.
- C. If I obtain a copy of my credit report and there is unfavorable information being reported from this company, I will sue your company and it's representatives to the full extent of the law.
- D. All my efforts to settle my debt will be with the original creditors. You are a collection agency, and I will not deal with you, and this organization any further.

Sincerely

To:

RE:

To whom it may concern:

The Fair Debt Collection Practices Act also the Public Laws 95-109 and 99-361, is being exercised, as it is my right to do so. I'm informing you that you and your company are no longer required.

This company must Cease and Desist every attempt in trying to collect this debt. If you fail to do so, I will file a complaint to the Federal Trade Commission. I will also inform the States Attorney General Office. I'm also informing you that I may record our telephone conversations in the future, if you continue to call. If I obtain a copy of my credit report and there is unfavorable information being reported from this company, I will sue your company and it's representatives to the full extent of the law. All my efforts to settle my debt will be with the original creditors. You are a collection agency, and I will not deal with you, and this organization any further.

Sincerely

*WHAT TO EXPECT*

Upon recovering your letter they will:

1. Give your account back to the original creditor
2. At this time you could try to re-negotiate a lower amount or payment plan.
3. The debt collector will seek an attorney and threaten to sue you. What difference does a lawsuit make if you still don't have the money?
4. The original creditor will eventually write the debt off as uncollectible, because you still don't have the money, and they still can't get it.
5. The information will be on your credit file for seven years, but it will also be removed in the same seven years.



**HIDDEN TREASURE: Money in a pot of oil!**

**“Beware of little expenses; a small leak will sink a ship”. –Franklin**

What do you have in the house asked the prophet? The reply was only a pot of oil.  
That was more than enough for God. Here are more cash finding ideas or treasure tips:

1. Raise the deductible on your car insurance.
2. Have a garage sale.
3. Use coupons to shop with
4. Sell your investments and other assets to reduce debt.
5. Cancel the insurance on those credit cards against theft or loss.
6. Sell pies, cakes and other moneymaking hobbies. (Famous Amos)
7. Apply for public assistance if you're out of work.
8. Cancel the cable.
9. Cook at home instead of eating out.
10. Instead of buying name brand products, buy the generic store brand.
11. Plant a garden.
12. Walk if possible or car pool. Take the bus
13. Do it yourself home repairs.
14. Turn off the lights, lower the heat, and open the window instead of the a/c.
15. Give up bad habits: smoking, drinking, gambling, etc
16. Shop at good will.
17. Get rid of magazine or newspaper subscriptions.
18. Penny pinch at Christmas and other celebrations.
19. Cancel your credit cards.
20. Purchase what you need only, and not what you want.
21. Raise your exemptions on your paychecks to get more money now!
22. Organize and budget.
23. Speak with your boss about a raise
24. Brown bag your lunch.
25. Put extra cash away in a savings account.
26. Get cash withdrawals from the bank and not the ATM.
27. Sell items at a pawnshop.
28. Buy items at a pawnshop.
29. Second job
30. Cut out spending in the vending machines.
31. Seek friends and family for assistance.
32. Go to the library for free books, videos, cd, etc
33. Exercise, diet, train for your body and mind!
34. **PAY YOUR TITHE**
35. **PAY YOUR VOWS**
36. **GIVE OFFERING**
37. **GIVE ALMS (to help the poor)**

**James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God**  
**Prov. 9:9-10 Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser.**



### SIGNS YOU'RE IN TROUBLE AND NEED HELP

Fear and anxiety leads to all sorts of discomforts, and dangerous health issues. Stress, ulcers, headaches, heart trouble, nervous breakdowns, depression, thoughts of suicide, and all manner of evil. You feel there is no hope and you're scared. Whether you believe it or not, you are not alone. I heard Joyce Meyer define fear as; false evidence appearing real. Notice she didn't say there wasn't evidence; she said it was false evidence. She said, she told God, one time she was afraid to do what God had asked her to do. God's reply to her was okay then do it afraid. What God was simply saying was face your fears and defeat them with the word. ***Psalms 23:4*** Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. The bible said you will fear no evil, not feel no evil. You walk through the valley, not around it. Jesus himself was so troubled in the garden of Gethsemane that he asked if this cup could pass. It's normal to be afraid sometimes, it's not normal to want to stay that way. Most people are afraid of the unknown, like the "what if" statements. These seem to be commonplace in people who are afraid. Jesus said not to worry about the morrow because tomorrow will take care of itself!

1. Paying bills with tithes and offerings
2. Unaware of how much debt you have
3. Past due notices
4. Arguments with family about finances
5. Screening phone calls
6. Marriage problems/discussions of divorce
7. No budget plan.
8. Increasing credit card limits
9. Paying minimum balances on credit cards
10. Trying to get more credit cards to pay debts you already have.
11. Writing post dated checks.
12. Negative balance in checking account.
13. Bank overdraft notices.
14. Paying only the interest

15. Canceling, health, auto, insurance.
16. Canceling retirement and savings plans
17. If you lose your job you can't live 3 to 6 months if you can't find work.
18. Thoughts of harm and evil.
19. Depressed, fatigued, irritable, quick tempered
20. Considering filing for bankruptcy

#### ALL THE HELP YOU NEED IS IN GOD'S WORD

The bible says, God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were *oppressed* of the devil; for God was with him. Circumstances and the cares of this life that weigh you down is nothing more than a satanic oppression. Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us. For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind! Fight the good fight of faith. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

#### Scripture References:

(Acts 10:38), (Gal. 3:13), (Rom, 6:14), (Rev. 12:11), (Rom. 8:37), (1 John 4:4), (2 Tim. 1:7), (1 Tim. 6:12), (James 4:7), (Isaiah 41:10), (Phil. 2:5)



## **CREDIT AGENCIES: LEGITAMITE OR SCAMS?**

When do you need counseling?

1. If you don't have enough money to pay your bills!
2. If you can't budget what you have!
3. If you have errors on your credit report!
4. If you're about to lose your home or car or both!

- *Consumer Credit Counseling or CCC is probably the best known.*
- *Creditors fund this company. The very people you owe.*
- *They assist you to set up a plan of action to help you manage your bills.*
- *CCC speaks on your behalf to negotiate with creditors to lower your payments and sometimes reduce interest rates.*

*Now they cannot reduce your debt. You are still required to pay it in full. You still can't miss any payment or your back at square one. You still have to pay for their service.*

What they don't tell you is that potential creditors frown upon any service that you need to help you manage your money to pay bills. You are viewed as a credit risk, and your current situation is equivalent to a bankruptcy!

- Contact them if you want:
- (a) The phone book for the closest local office
  - (b) 800-388-2227
  - (c) [www.consumer counseling.com](http://www.consumer counseling.com)

### **THE SCAM ARTIST:** How is it done?

It's difficult to spot some bad companies because they look legitimate. It's difficult to spot some true Christians, they have a form of Godliness. Jesus said "you'll know them by their fruits". An apple tree will only produce apples. If one has a grapefruit on it, you better beware! Let's continue on.

1. If you're asked to get an employer identification number (EIN) from the IRS to replace your social security number... **BIG FLAG!** This is falsifying your documents and information. Those who do this are cheating themselves of future benefits from the social security money due to them. You're actually robbing yourself.
2. If you're asked to get a new mailing address. **BIG FLAG! NOT TO MENTION ALL THE ABOVE IS A FEDERAL CRIME!** Especially if done under false pretence like avoiding your debt. You could face mail, and civil fraud charges, and be found guilty.
3. If you receive priority mail instead of the US Postal service. It's usually always a junk mail scam with an 800 or 900 numbers. (Just ask MISS CLEO, the so-called psychic! She could see the future, but not possible jail time and troubles for herself, She needed Jesus!)
4. Avoid the classified ad section of the newspaper and the local cable television.



5. If they guarantee a loan for money upfront. (The fee can be a hundred dollars to several thousand). Legitimate agencies may charge a processing fee, but they still can't guarantee a loan will be approved.

**Knowledge Tip:**

Check companies out with the better business bureau and the local city business associations.

6. Don't give anyone your personal credit card information, or your checking account number. They will deduct money right away, and make charges on your credit card accounts.

**Prov. 11:14** Where no counsel is the people fall

**Prov. 28:6** Better is the poor who walketh in his uprightness than he that is perverse in his ways, though he be rich.

In summary: Some companies make a valiant effort to help you. Some want only to hurt you, and to take your money!

If you have extra money to give these fly by night companies, you can settle your debts for less money, by doing it yourself. Even if it takes time, remember it took time to destroy your credit, it's going to take more time to repair it. What do you have to lose?



I SINCERELY PRAY THIS COURSE HAS BEEN HELPFUL. I HAVE BEEN BLESSED BY YOU TREMENDOUSLY, AND BELIEVE GOD WITH YOU TO LIVE THE ABUNDANT LIFE BY THE PRINCIPLES AND EXAMPLES OF JESUS. HE NEVER WANTED DEBT AND POVERTY FOR US, AND NOW WE KNOW WHAT TO DO TO STAY DEBT FREE. PLEASE SHARE WHAT YOU'VE LEARNED WITH SOMEONE ELSE. YOU ARE BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING. MAY THE LOVE OF THE KING OF KINGS BE SHED ABROAD IN YOUR HEART AND LIFE FOR ALL THE WORLD TO SEE. THANK YOU FOR ENCOURAGING ME AND SUPPORTING ME. YOU HAVE REALLY WARMED MY HEART. THE LORD GAVE ME THE VISION, BUT HE STILL HAD TO COMPEL YOU TO COME. YOU ASKED THE LORD FOR HIS HELP AND WE ALL ANSWERED THE CALL. THE LORD WAS WAITING ON YOU THE WHOLE TIME. HIS EXCELLENT PURPOSE WILL BE FILLED IN OUR LIVES IF WE WOULD LET HIM BE GOD, AND TRUST HIM. IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY, ASK HIM INTO YOUR HEART, AND LIFE RIGHT NOW. HE LOVES YOU MORE THAN ANYTHING. HE HAD TO, BECAUSE HE DIED A TERRIBLE DEATH, SO THAT YOU AND I WOULDN'T HAVE TO. PRAY THIS PRAYER;

**LORD JESUS, I CONFESS UNTO YOU THIS DAY THAT I'M A SINNER. I REPENT AND ASK YOU TO BE MERCIFIL UNTO ME. YOU SAID TO COME AS I AM AND YOU WILL IN NO WISE CAST ME OUT. I BELIEVE YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD. I CONFESS WITH MY MOUTH AND BELIEVE IN MY HEART THAT YOU DIED FOR MY SINS. AND ON THE THIRD DAY YOU AROSE FROM THE DEAD AND YOU ARE ALIVE FOREVERMORE. SAVE ME LORD JESUS, I SURRENDER MY LIFE TO YOU. COME INTO MY HEART AND FILL ME WITH YOUR HOLY SPIRIT. I THANK YOU, AND GIVE YOU ALL GLORY, HONOR AND PRAISE. I AM BORN AGAIN, RIGHT NOW, IN THE FAMILY OF GOD, BY FAITH, IN JESUS NAME, FOREVER AND AMEN!**

PRAISE GOD WE ARE FAMILY, YOU ARE A BRAND NEW CREATURE. NO MATTER WHAT YOU HAVE DONE, JESUS HAS FORGIVEN YOU. NO MATTER WHAT PEOPLE SAY, JESUS HAS FORGIVEN YOU. FORGIVE YOURSELF, AND OTHERS AND ENJOY THE CHRISTIAN LIFE. FIND A LOCAL CHURCH THAT TEACHES THE LOVE OF CHRIST, AND FELLOWSHIP AND GROW TO HIS PERFECTION.

CONGRATULATIONS IN COMPLETEING THIS COURSE!

IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS  
GOD BLESS YOU,

DARRELL CAREY