



# UPI: "Finance Matters"

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## **BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND**

In his bestselling book, The seven habits of highly effective people, Dr. Steven Covey, lists habit number 2 as "Begin with the end in mind".

As life unfolds, I have found this to be a universal principle. When we know the destination, (goal), we have two critical components to success. First, we will have the ability to have success in sight, knowing when we get there; and secondly, we will have the ability to measure our progress along the way.

The Mission of UPI is clearly stated as "*Serving Christ Through Baseball*" – For the past 30 years, UPI has worked out this mission with concentrated dual focus. Souls – using the platform of baseball to introduce Christ to any and all who will listen; and growth – accepting the responsibility of mentoring those whom the King has given us influence by Caring, Guiding and Teaching - with the end result of not only living for Christ, but living in a Christ like manner.

**Caring, guiding and teaching!** These are not only nice sounding words, but are a definition of our commitment, and fulfilling that commitment has multifaceted impact.

**Finance Matters**, as previously introduced is a monthly e-newsletter discussing a variety of financial issues that historically have been major obstacles to men and women, as they contend with the path of life. UPI offers this for two reasons:

- **"Forewarned is forearmed"** – when we see the potholes of life in advance, we can avoid them.

- **“Do it right”** – in managing our finances, like most all other parts of life, there are ‘rights’ and ‘wrongs’, knowing the right answer before we stumble provides a ‘road map’ (financial GPS) to successfully reach our destination.

**‘Begin with the end in mind’**; what is the “end”?

When it involves finance, the ‘end’ is successfully living life with no financial stress; balancing daily living with intermediate and long term goal setting, living within our means, and as well as honoring our God by attributing all of our finances to Him.

**Finance Matters Training:** -No one starts out with the goal of becoming a slave to debt, ruining their credit, or constantly worrying about money; those results come from bad decisions, bad priorities, and even bad luck.

We pray the result of our contributions to the UPI Family will be the application of ‘do it right’ principles and strategies, so that the financial pot holes can be avoided, and financial peace will be a reality.

Stay tuned!

Following is a preview of future topics:

1. Debt
  - a. Why?
  - b. How to avoid
  - c. How to escape – if already caught
2. Charitable Planning –
  - a. Using our desire to advance the Kingdom to both simplify and reduce our income tax liability.
3. Budgeting: Is it really necessary, and does it work?
4. Starting a business: is it for me, and can it be profitable?
5. Investing – Unlocking the mystery
6. Keeping score – What’s measured is managed!
7. Tithing – Is it His or mine?
8. Saving – Is there a difference between saving and investing?
9. Insurance
10. Wills / Trusts
  - a. Guardians for children
  - b. Trustee for the finances

**Send me your questions.**

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