

Crushing Debt

Video Notes

Discussion Questions

1. What stood out the most to you in this video?

2. Rick identified 4 principles about debt. 1. Debt is always a presumption on the future, 2. Debt may not be a sin, but it certainly may be a curse – Deut. 28. 3. Debt can come from a lack of faith. 4. God can provide. What is your opinion about debt and how do handle debt in your work or your personal life?

3. Proverbs 22:7 (NIV) says: *“The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is slave of the lender”*. Even though debt is not a sin, many have become a slave to it. Jesus said in Matthew 6:24 (NIV), *“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money”*. How have you seen debt affect you or someone you know and their relationship with Jesus? How have you seen it affect businesses?

4. God’s Word teaches us in Romans 13:8 (NIV), to *“leave no debt remain outstanding”*. When it comes to both business and personal debt, it would be prudent for the Christian business leader to consider borrowing for consumption vs. borrowing for investing. There is still a risk, but what is the difference and what thought should the Christian be giving before acquiring debt?

5. Rick gives 5 steps to crushing debt.
 - a. Pray and commit to becoming debt free.
 - b. Assess and know your existing financial condition.
 - c. Develop a debt repayment plan.
 - d. Make the necessary adjustments to get debt free.
 - e. Change your behaviors and your financial practices.

Nowhere in Rick’s comments or God’s Word, does it say that getting a handle on your finances, would be easy. Which of these steps is the hardest for you and why?

6. As Christians, we must be true to our word, which means debts must be repaid. In fact, we must do our absolute best to pay them back according to the exact terms we established. Psalms 37:21 (NIV) says, “The wicked borrows but does not pay back, but the righteous is generous and gives”. Having no plan or making no adjustments to repay a debt, puts your Christian character into question. Have you ever known someone whose character was in questions because of how they handled debt? What advice would you give a Christian colleague or friend who struggles with debt?

Application

God calls us to trust Him to fund our businesses and the work He gave to us. What steps can you take to trust God more when it comes to crushing debt?

Going Deeper

This section is an extension of the above material and is designed for a deeper study/devotion on your own. Read the scripture below and take time to journal and put this content into practice to help shape your culture at work.

1. Read Deuteronomy 28:12-13. God has called us to be the head and not the tail, above and not beneath. When God commanded the blessing on us in Deuteronomy, He said we would lend unto many nations, and not borrow. Being in debt is not operating in the blessing God has called us to. Start a prayer journal and begin praying about how you can become more reliant on God and debt free.

2. Begin writing down the plan of how you will become debt free. Include the necessary financial adjustments you will need to make along with what behaviors and spending practices you will need to change.

3. MOST IMPORTANTLY – Ask a friend to hold you accountable to this plan and set up a weekly meeting to talk about your progress.
