### WIN MAKE GIVE



# WEALTH SERIES 20

**PART TWO** A Financial Reality Check

#### Part Two - Financial Reality Check

In Part One, we introduced you to the **6 Steps of Becoming a Wealth Builder,** which outlines a plan and a system for changing your financial future. Once again, these steps are:

- 1. Increase Normal Income
- 2. Reduce Your Expenses
- 3. Invest the Difference
- 4. Create Passive Income
- 5. Invest to Reduce Taxes
- 6. Diversify to Protect Wealth

We start today with <u>Part Two of the Wealth Series</u> by walking through a financial reality check, so you can slow down and evaluate where you're at financially, both right now and moving forward in the future. Much like paying attention to your weight or blood pressure for your health, it's important to know and be able to track your financial metrics like your expenses, income, liabilities, debts, and investments on a regular basis. For the lesson link and resources go to <u>WinMakeGive.com/wealth-part-2</u>.

Before you start, print off recent statements from your bank, credit cards, student loan, and mortgage. Then, download our free <u>Personal Budget &</u> <u>Expense Tracker</u> on the episode resource page to get real about your monthly finances. Starting today, the goal is to identify your expenses and income, so you can take the first step to become financially sound.



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**Ben Kinney** Ben Kinney Companies Founder <u>WinMakeGive.com</u>

## FINANCIAL REALITY CHECK

"Take responsibility for your finances or get used to taking orders for the rest of your life. You're either a master of money or a slave to it. Your choice."

- Robert Kiyosaki -

## Why track your expenses, debts, & income?

Once you've got a handle on what expenses are required (rent/mortgage, utilities, food, etc.) versus what your optional expenses are (entertainment, eating out, travel, hobbies, etc.), your debts owed and your monthly income, you'll have a full view of what money is going out and what money is coming in.

With this financial reality check complete, you'll know if you are breaking even each month, spending more money than you have, or if you have extra money to save, invest, give away, or pay down debt.

This is the first step to truly getting financially sound and the most important one because it sets you up to understand the rest of the wealth series. Download this session's "Budget & Expense Tracker" at <u>WinMakeGive.com/wealth-part-2</u>.

With this resource, you'll have the means to easily track all of your expenses so you can make a financial plan moving forward.

#### THE HIGHLIGHTER EXERCISE

Print out all of your credit card and bank statements with line item details. Highlight required expenses in green and optional expenses in yellow.

> Get the Personal Budget & Expense Tracker at <u>WinMakeGive.com/wealth-part-2/</u>



#### Financial Reality Check Step 1: Expenses

The first step to knowing your finances is understanding how much money you need every month to live on. We put these into two categories:

- 1. Required monthly expenses expenses you can't live without
- 2. Optional monthly expenses things you could do without in emergencies

Take the time to calculate your required and optional expenses by referring to your bank and credit card statements and filling out this sheet.

REQUIRED MONTHLY EXPENSES		OPTIONAL MONTHLY EXPENSES	
Mortgage/Rent		Entertainment	
Water/Power/Garbage		Subscriptions	
Internet/Cable/Cell		Vacation/Travel	
Debt/Loans/Credit Cards .		Hobbies	
Auto Payment		Savings/401(k)	
Car Insurance		Charity/Church	
Other Transportation		Big Purchases	
Gas/Oil Change			

Follow along with Part Two at <u>WinMakeGive.com/wealth-part-2/</u>

#### Financial Reality Check Step 1: Expenses Continued

REQUIRED MONTHLY EXPENSES	<b>OPTIONAL MONTHLY EXPENSES</b>
Groceries	Education
Insurance/medical	Books
Kids/Daycare	Other
Pets	Other
Loaned monies	Other
Repairs	Other
Other	Other
Other	Other
REQUIRED \$	OPTIONAL \$
x 12 =	x 12 =
REQUIRED \$	OPTIONAL \$
ANNUAL EXPENSES (Required + Optional Annual)	\$

1

#### Financial Reality Check Step 2: Debt Tracker

**Debt Tracker:** This where you take the time to log all of your obligations, liabilities, and debt. Locate your minimum payment, interest rate, and balance.

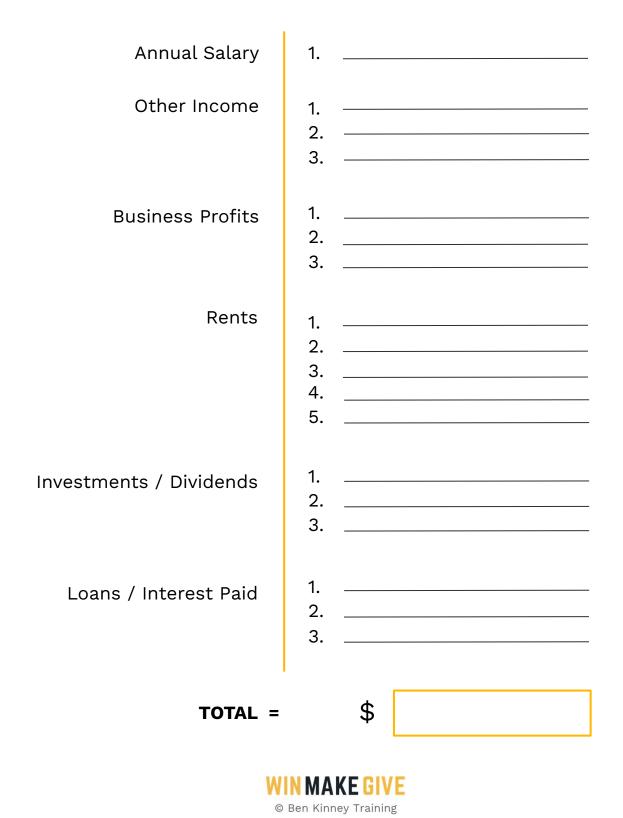
		MIN PAYMENT	RATE	TOTAL BALANCE
Credit Cards	1. 2.			
Auto Loans	1. 2. 3.			
Student Loans	1. 2.			
Lines of Credit	1. 2. 3.			
Real Estate	1. 2. 3.			
Other Loans & Debt	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.			
IRS	1. 2.			
TOTAL MONTH		\$		total = \$
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7

#### Financial Reality Check Step 3: Current Income

The income section will help you understand how much you have left each month to save, invest, or maybe explain why your debt keeps growing.



### **Financial Reality Check - Reflection**

What did you learn from the required vs. optional expenses exercise?

What did you learn from the debt tracker exercise?

Write down an income goal for 1 year, 3 years, and 5 years.



#### **Financial Reality Check - Taking Action**

Understanding our expenses, debts, and income is the first step in making sound decisions about our financial future and a path forward.

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

What is the expense that surprised you?

What have you ever bought that you wished you wouldn't have?

What do you spend money on that you could go without?

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

1. What can I do to reduce my expenses right away?

2. How much more income do I need in order to start saving more?

3. What debts or liabilities should I focus on paying off first?



## FINANCIAL REALITY CHECK

### "The goal isn't more money. The goal is living life on your terms."

- Chris Brogan -



#### **Part Two Homework Question**

Benjamin Franklin said "Beware of; a small; will a great"
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#### **Preparation for Part Three**

Complete your expenses tracker worksheet.

Complete your debt tracker worksheet.

Complete your current income worksheet.

Congratulate yourself for making it through step one and two of the Wealth Series 2.0.

Please join the discussion on the <u>Win Make Give Facebook group</u>. Post your thoughts, comments, and takeaways from the first two lessons.

Follow along with Part Two at <u>WinMakeGive.com/wealth-part-2/</u>



### IMPORTANT

Nothing in this course constitutes investment advice, performance data or any recommendation that any security, portfolio of securities, investment product, transaction or investment strategy is suitable for any specific person.

We cannot assess anything about your personal circumstances, your finances, or your goals and objectives, all of which are unique to you, so any opinions or information contained on this course are just that – an opinion or information.

You should not use our advice to make financial decisions and I highly recommend you seek professional advice from someone who is authorized to provide investment advice.



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Win Make Give Series