
The Why's, What's and How's of Family Finance

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The Why's

In order to answer the question “Why should we learn about family finance?” we must reflect on inspired doctrine.

1. Spiritual: To bring us to Christ

The ultimate doctrine of everything God does is to **bring us to Christ**. If God's work and glory is to bring to pass the “immortality and eternal life of man”,⁹ and if the only way we can have eternal life is through Jesus Christ,¹⁰ then the purpose of all God does, including finance, is to bring us to Christ.

2. Temporal: To help us become wiser stewards

The Lord said, “For it is required of the Lord, at the hand of every steward, to render an account of his **stewardship**, both in time and in eternity. For he who is faithful and wise in time is accounted worthy to inherit the mansions prepared for him of my Father.”¹¹

3. Individual: To accomplish our divine missions

We all have **sacred missions** to perform here on Earth, our “divine nature and destiny.”¹⁶ Many of our missions require material resources. As we are faithful financial stewards, we can acquire resources to be consecrated to the work God has for us to do.

4. Family: To return with our families back to Heavenly Father’s presence

An eternal perspective of the finances of the home **strengthens our eternal marriage** and is a conduit for positive parenting. President David O. McKay reminded us: “No other success can compensate for failure in the home.”¹⁹ We will be disappointed in life if we gain the riches of the world and lose our spouses and families.²⁰

⁹ Moses 1:39.

¹⁰ John 14:6.

¹¹ D&C 72:3-4.

¹⁶ Gordon B. Hinckley, “The Family: A Proclamation to the World,” *Ensign*, Oct. 1995.

¹⁹ Conference Report, Apr. 1935.

²⁰ Matt 16:26.