



# MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP PODCAST

## - BY BRENT BRADING



## 9) Leading people into financial freedom

*10 Lessons on how leaders can help their people apply biblical financial wisdom*

### Part 9: Why debt is so dangerous

*Matthew 25: 14 "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. 15 To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey.*

#### Notice that the Master 'gave' the talents

- The world is about buying and selling
- The Kingdom of God is about giving and receiving

#### We have seen that it is God's desire to be our SOURCE

- He is our provider
- He usually provides through work and multiplies through faithfulness
- But what if God seems to be slow? Or not providing enough?

**ILLUST:** When Abraham became impatient with God's promises he slept with Hagar and produced Ishmael

- This was not God's plan and led to such problems later on
- In the same way, if we become impatient or desperate at God's timing we can arrange our own Ishmael called DEBT

#### BIG IDEA: OPPOSITE OF GOD GIVING IS YOU BORROWING

#### Why is debt so dangerous?

- Debt is the enemy of generosity
- Debt makes you a slave to the lender
- Debt is not God's will for your life!

*Proverbs 22:7 (NIV)*

*7 The rich rule over the poor,  
and the borrower is slave to the lender.*

*Romans 13:8 (NIV)*

*8 Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law.*

#### What exactly is debt? Very basic definition:

- **Investment** - something you buy which grows in value. Eg. House. You borrow money to buy it but if you sold it now it would more than repay what you owe. This is not debt but a good investment.
- **Debt** - you borrow money to buy something but if you sold it now you wouldn't have enough to repay. This is debt!

**Quote** *"You can pay now and play later. Or play now and pay later. What ever you do second compounds"*

- Compounds means gets exponentially bigger and bigger
- The more you play first, the more you pay second. Eg. Pay double for the car

- The more you pay first, the more you get to enjoy what you already own

**ILLUST:.** We were challenged to pay off our house in 7 years

- Result is that you save the value of a house!

**Practical ideas:**

1. Start with repentance - the direction of a Jesus follower should be out of debt and not into debt.
2. Close all accounts. Don't get deceived into getting things and then only paying for them later. Remember that you always end up paying so much more.
3. Cut up your credit cards if you can't resist going into debt. Do not be tempted to take short term loans that are always offered.
4. Consolidate debt if possible into a single low interest account - beware of high interest debts like credit cards and loan sharks!
5. Aim to pay more than the minimum on any debt repayment - the faster you pay it off the less you end up paying.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. If you are in debt right now, then why are you in debt, really?
2. What plan can you put in writing to get out of debt as soon as possible?