



**LIVE** **FREE Webinar**

**Thursday, September 17**

2 PM (Eastern) / 1 PM (Central) / Noon (Mountain) / 11 AM (Pacific)

**BUILDING  
KNOWLEDGE**



# Financial Planning During Difficult Times & Beyond

*How to navigate personal financial challenges and set goals and strategies for a more stable future.*



**Suzanne Johnson**

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with MODERATOR

**Nick Guerriero**

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# Financial Planning During Difficult Times & Beyond

SEPTEMBER 17, 2020

Grace  
Financial  
Coaching





# Suzanne Johnson

Head Coach at Grace Financial Coaching

## YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Suzanne has been teaching and guiding clients in the financial methods of Dave Ramsey for over 5 years.

## BACKGROUND

Prior to becoming a Ramsey Preferred Coach, Suzanne spent 8 years in professional sports and 7 years in commercial real estate.

**RAMSEY**  
**PREFERRED COACH™**



FINANCIAL PLANNING DURING DIFFICULT TIMES & BEYOND

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# Basics of Budgeting

01

## **FOOD**

This category only includes basic groceries. Restaurants & bars would be separate.

02

## **SHELTER**

You need a roof over your head. Always prioritize your rent or mortgage over items like credit card payments.

03

## **UTILITIES**

This category includes electricity, sanitation, water, gas or oil, and internet. Cable & streaming services are not necessities.

04

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Do not neglect your car - it could be key to attending an in-person interview or getting back & forth to a temporary or part-time gig.



# Dealing with Creditors

01

Call your creditors.

Explain your current situation.

The more communication with them, the better.

02

Make a note of the date and time that you called.

Get the name of the representative and their employee number, if applicable.

03

Do not be scared or embarrassed.

Being proactive is taking the mature route, as opposed to being reactive to a late notice or credit score hit.

04

If they are rude, remember that is your phone call and you are trying to be a good customer.

Feel free to hang up and call again.

05

Update your creditors every two to three weeks, depending on the fluidity of your circumstances.





# Pause Your Retirement Contributions

## **TAKE A BREAK**

Consider pausing your 401k, 403b or TSP automatic transfers.

## **BUT WHY?**

It doesn't make sense to be saving 4% if that could be putting you in jeopardy of losing your home or defaulting on a loan.

## **WHEN CAN I START AGAIN?**

You can always restart your retirement savings when your financial situation is more stable.

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# Life Insurance



## MARRIED WITH KIDS?

If anyone is reliant on your income - spouse, children, parent - you absolutely must have life insurance.

Price out a Term Life Insurance Plan that is a minimum of 5x your salary. Ideal amount would be 10-12x.



## SINGLE?

If you are single, and no one depends on your income, get a Term Life Insurance Policy that will cover your final expenses, based upon how you want to be remembered.

Make the beneficiary a parent, sibling, or trusted friend.



## BENEFICIARIES

If you have an existing policy, log in and make sure the beneficiaries and their contact information up to date.

Print out the cover page of the policy and give a copy to the beneficiary.



## INCREASE YOUR SAVINGS

You should have an Emergency Fund of 3 to 6 months equivalent of your expenses. Use your budget to determine your monthly costs.

Keep this money in a liquid, Money Market Savings Account. Start a relationship with a credit union to obtain a better interest rate.

This money is not a Vacation fund or a New Laptop fund...this is for EMERGENCIES ONLY, such as a large unanticipated car repair or job loss.



## WHAT ABOUT MY CREDIT SCORE?

Your credit score is simply a reflection of your relationship with debt - it doesn't mean you have a lot of money. To grow your score without going into debt, use a low-interest credit card to auto-pay things like your cell phone bill, or other fixed, monthly costs. Set up an auto-transfer from your checking account to the credit card so that the balance gets paid within 48 hours. This will show revolving credit without increasing your debt.



# Payroll Tax Deferral

## WHAT IS IT?

The Payroll Tax that you usually pay will not be taken out of your paycheck. This will result in an INCREASE to your income, however, you will need to pay it back.

## WHO IS AFFECTED?

As of the date of this presentation, mandatory Payroll Tax Deferrals are only going to affect Federal employees.

## WHAT DO I DO?

If you are upside down on your bills, you can use this money to get caught up temporarily. Otherwise, set up a separate savings account and immediately transfer this money to that account in anticipation of paying it back in early 2021.







## TIME VERSUS MONEY

Both our time and our money are finite.

Time is your most valuable asset.

If you are a parent, the time that you can give your kids is invaluable.

Your marriage needs dedicated time, so that they can develop and grow.

Having more time than you are used to can require a big adjustment, but if you find yourself with more time than money right now, do not let that go to waste.



## WEBSITE

<https://gracefinancialcoaching.com>

## LINKTREE

<https://linktr.ee/gracefinancialcoaching>

## COURTESY BUDGETING SHEET

<https://gracefinancialcoaching.com/subscribe>

## COMPLIMENTARY COACHING SESSION

After downloading the Budgeting Sheet, you will be eligible for a complimentary Coaching Session (60 minutes; \$297 value).

5 people will be randomly selected and contacted within 48 hours.

