

#7 Today's Finances Give Me Options

Three Simple Truths About Finances

1. Money _____ make you happy.

Survey: For \$10 million people would...

abandon their entire family (25 percent).

become prostitutes for a week or more (23 percent).

give up their American citizenship (16 percent).

leave their spouse (16 percent).

withhold testimony letting a murderer go free (10 percent).

kill a stranger (7 percent).

put their children up for adoption (3 percent).

“Money doesn’t change men, it merely unmasks them. If a man is naturally selfish, or arrogant, or greedy, the money brings it out; that’s all.”

— HENRY FORD

2. Debt _____ make you unhappy.

“All progress is based upon a universal innate desire on the part of every living organism to live beyond its income.”

— SAMUEL BUTLER

Solomon of ancient Israel summed up the condition of anyone in debt when he said, “The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower becomes the lender’s slave.” Who wants to be a slave, controlled by someone else?

3. Having financial margins give you _____ .

In 1985, Margaret and I made a decision: ***We will sacrifice today so that we can have options tomorrow.*** From then on, we've determined to live by this financial formula:

10 percent to church/charity

10 percent to investments

80 percent to living expenses

*“Money is like manure. If you let it pile up, it just smells.
But if you spread it around, you can encourage things to grow.”*

— GUN DENHART

Andrew Carnegie said his goal was to spend the first half of his life accumulating wealth and the second half giving it away.