

## St. Croix Valley Christians In Action

### TWO CAR PROGRAMS

**1 . Car Repairs:** Repairs are provided once for those living within 200% of the poverty level and living in the Stillwater School District, Oakdale and Woodbury. For those livings outside of the district please have your pastor call.

**2 . Car Grants:** For those **with families** who are **working or going to school** and living within 200% of the poverty level. Have your pastor call us.

You and a Christian mentor couple (not a friend, relative or employer) from your church will attend the 10 week Crown Biblical Financial Study or 6 week Journey To Financial Freedom classes. In it you will learn the Biblical principles of handling money and how to set up a complete budget.

Twice during the course you and your mentors will meet with your instructor who will answer your specific budgeting questions and help you plan your budget.

Once you have the course completed and your budget planned, your instructor will make a request to the car granting committee to consider you for receiving a free car.

### BEGIN NOW!

Start a 60 day financial diary. Just carry a sheet of paper in your pocket and **as you spend** money or pay a bill, write it down.

Donated cars are needed. 651-770-7699

### DONATED CARS NEEDED

*We repair and provide cars to low income families. 651-770-7699*

Receive the largest tax deduction

Could you cut your food costs by \$3 this month? How about the same for auto, clothing and housing? Small adjustments in your budget will soon add up to \$500 by the end of a year. This is why some people get out of debt and others don't. More money is not the answer; rather more planning ahead (budgeting) is the answer that makes the difference. (Some people make twice as much money as they did five years ago and still don't have enough. Pre-planning is needed.)

Consider replacing your current car once you have 160,000 – 200,000 miles on it and you are faced with, for example, \$1,200 of repairs. Take all but about \$500 of your "car maintenance envelope" money and add it to the "car replacement envelope" money to purchase a different vehicle.



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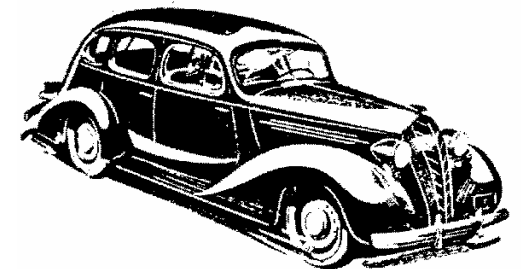
P.O. Box 225  
Lake Elmo, MN 55042-0225  
Phone (651) 773-3083

# Want to have a car that runs?

**Are you willing to plan ahead (budget) so you can keep your car operating?**

**It costs 35¢ to 60¢ a mile to operate most cars.**

*"The mind of man plans his way, but the LORD directs his steps."* Proverbs 16:9 (NASB).



[www.carcasaturday.org](http://www.carcasaturday.org)

## Car Budget – 2 steps

Automobile(s), category #5 of your Monthly Income and Expenses form can be more easily understood and controlled if you do these 2 steps. Don't let autos "wreck" your spending plan. It costs 35¢ to 60¢ per mile driven.

### Step 1 Determine the average number of miles you drive each month.

If you wrote down the car's mileage, for example six months ago, you would subtract that number from the current mileage reading and then divide by six. This would give you the average miles you drove each month. Put that number in the last line of sub-point C below. If you do not have this estimate, you will need to do A and B to determine C.

#### A. Determine where you are driving at least once a month:

Take a lined sheet of paper and make the following columns: (Do B on the backside.)

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Location	Total Miles Round Trip	Times per Month	Miles Each Month
Total Miles Each Month (add all of Column 4)			

Column 1: List the places you would normally drive to in a month such as church, work, school activities, grocery store, or visiting.

Column 2: List the round trip mileage for each location.

Column 3: List the number of times you would make each trip per month.

Column 4: On each line multiply the number in Column 2 by the number in Column 3. Write the answer in Column 4.

#### B. Determine places you drive to less than once a month:

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Location	Total Miles Round Trip	Times per Year	Miles Each Year
Total 1: Miles Each Year (add all of Column 4)			
Divide above number by 12 months in the year			/12
Total 2: Average Miles each month			

Column 1: List the places you would drive to **less** than once each month such as trips to the doctor, visiting relatives who live far away, and other occasional trips.

Column 2 - 4: Complete the following data as you did in the routine trips table.

#### C. Add the following:

Total miles each Month (Step 1, A) \_\_\_\_\_

Average Miles Each Month (Step 1, B, Total 2) + \_\_\_\_\_

Total Average Miles Each Month = \_\_\_\_\_

You will use this "total average miles each month" to plan your car expenses. We will use the example of 1,000 miles each month.

### Step 2 Set aside three "envelopes" or categories of money: operation, maintenance and replacement.

**Operation:** *This includes paying for gasoline, insurance and license tabs.*

**Operation: estimate 25¢ per mile.** It will be higher if you have high insurance rates, a car that is less than 10 years old or a car that uses a lot of gas. After 3-4 months you will be better able to estimate your actual costs. Operation costs for many cars are in the 18-32¢ range. Figure 28¢ per mile if you drive less than 750 miles a month.

**Multiply 25¢ x "average miles each month" from C above.** (Example  $1000 \times .25 = \$250$ .) If you plan to drive 1,000 miles a month you will need to put \$250 in your "car operation envelope" each month. This will then be used to **pay for gas, insurance and license tabs ONLY!**

**Maintenance:** *This includes paying for oil changes and repairs.*

**Maintenance: estimate 12¢ per mile.** Once this "envelope" has \$1,000 in it you may be able to reduce the average cost to about 7¢ per mile.

**Multiply 12¢ x "average miles each month" from C above.** (Example  $1000 \times .12 = \$120$ .) If you plan to drive 1,000 miles a month you will need to put \$120 in your "car maintenance envelope" each month. This will then be used to **pay for oil changes and all repairs.**

**Replacement:** *This is the money you will use to pay for your next car – without payments!*

**Replacement: estimate 10¢ per mile.** Once this "envelope" has \$4,000 in it you may be able to reduce the average cost to about 7¢ per mile. If you plan to buy a vehicle which is fewer than 2 years old, you will need to increase this to 15¢ or even 25¢ per mile.

**Multiply 10¢ x "average miles each month" from C above.** (Example  $1000 \times .10 = \$100$ .) If you plan to drive 1000 miles a month you need to put \$100 in your "car replacement envelope" each month. This will then be used to **pay-in-full for your next car. No car payments!!**

**1,000 miles:** *Operation = \$250 + maintenance = \$120 + replacement = \$100. Total = \$470 to drive 1,000 miles*