Five Keys to Communicating about Money
Please use the CHAT box ... on a scale of 1-10 ...

1 – No No No, that’s not me at all

5 – Yes, that describes me sometimes

10 – OMG, that’s me!!
The Worry Wart is someone who is constantly worrying about their money. They are looking at their bank accounts and investment accounts daily. They are always looking at how much things cost and worrying about prices of goods and services. They always make sure to pay their bills on time and celebrate afterwards. Sometimes it can be difficult for this person to pull the trigger on a purchase. They often even feel guilty after making a discretionary purchase.
**The Spender** is someone who loves buying things. They are not very focused on saving for retirement, college, bills, a house etc., but rather about what they can buy here and now. They love the instant gratification that comes along with the purchase. They delay saving just to purchase one more thing. Spenders buy nice gifts for others and this is one way that makes them feel good. The spender is all about the here and now and not planning for what comes down the road.

#YOLO
The Penny Pincher is the opposite of the spender. They have a plan in place and want to make sure they are saving the proper amount for each goal they have set forth for themselves. Money means security. This is the person who is still using an iPhone 4 because, technically, it still works. They hesitate to buy anything not marked down, and are always looking for good deals to save money when they make a purchase.
The Side Stepper is the person who puts everything related to understanding finances very low on their priority list. They don’t care for budgets, credit scores, for meetings about their retirement accounts, or for sitting down to pay bills. This could be a person with built up wealth or they could have very little, but it doesn’t really matter to them either way. Money gets them through the month – and that’s fine with them. They just sort of do what they want without any plan in place.
The Competitor is someone who necessarily is not good or bad with their money, but is more concerned with “Keeping up with the Jones’.” If their friends are going on a fancy vacation they are planning one too. Money decisions are often based on other people’s budgets, not theirs. Spending money, sometimes even going into debt, provides a sense of status, accomplishment and self-worth.
Your Values

Your Spending
1. No Secrets!

- “I co-signed for a friend”
- “My credit score is terrible”
- “I have something in collections”
- “I have a second savings account”
- “I have money in an old 401k”
2. Three “buckets”
3. It’s a date!

• At the beginning of the month, meet and talk through:
  o Who is paying the bills that month and when
  o What is special or different this month
  o Do we agree on goals?
4. Transparency!!
HoneyDue App

Get Bill Reminders
Stop Paying Late Fees

See Everyone’s Activity
In One Place

Track Spending
See The Big Picture
5. Be Flexible

Sometimes we need to meet in the middle!
Questions?

Stay Healthy!!

Mark Munzenberger
UMCU Financial Education Manager
mmunzenberger@umcu.org
(734) 662-8200, ext. 2741