



RETIRE WHILE YOU WORK™

THE NEWSLETTER OF DAVID ADAMS WEALTH GROUP

Start The Year With 3 Keys To FINANCIAL SUCCESS

3 Key Financial Steps To Start The Year



There are three keys to starting 2021 with personal and financial success. Here are our recommendations:

After a year like 2020, it might be tempting to jump straight into 2021 and never look back. Last year, we all dealt with massive disruption and change in life and business, so this year, we're all eager to return to some sense of normalcy. But moving forward without a clear picture of how those changes affect your life and finances doesn't set anyone up for financial success in the new year. In fact, if you wish to start the year with financial success, the key is looking back to learn before looking forward to grow. Here are three steps to starting 2021 with a clear picture of where you are – so you may end the year where you want to be.

1. Know Your Budget

The best way to get a good understanding of your budget is to review your recent spending. Understanding your budget will help you identify areas to cut back or redirect funds. It's especially important this year since major spending categories may have changed.

"It's hard to identify opportunities for investing, savings and other financial goals if you don't actually know how you're spending your money," said David Adams, Founder & CEO of David Adams Wealth Group. "Knowledge really is power when it comes to your money."

There are a few easy ways to get a clear picture of your 2020 spending. Most major credit card companies will provide annual spending reports that give you a detailed analysis of where your money went last year. David also suggests using a budget tracking

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At David Adams Wealth Group, we utilize a team approach to help our clients manage their wealth and organize their finances so they can focus on what is important to them.



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3 Keys To Financial Success (continued)

software or app like Mint. After inputting your budget limits for each category, you can track your accounts and spending in one place. It will even send you alerts if you're in danger of overspending in a certain category. This can help you adjust your spending before it goes off course, rather than beating yourself up after missing a target.

2. Set Personal & Financial Goals

Once you know where your money has been going, you can set realistic and achievable goals for 2021. At David Adams Wealth Group, we let your future dreams guide the course of our financial plans, so we suggest setting personal and financial goals at the start of each year. After last year, our goals may have shifted, as the pandemic put new things in focus. When deciding your personal and financial goals for 2021, choose a few to focus on for maximum impact. Whether you want to increase the savings in your emergency fund or pay off debt, focus on the few goals that will make the biggest difference.

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3. Rebalance Your Portfolio

After you've established a budget and set a few powerful goals for 2021, it's time to look at your portfolio and prepare you for a strong start to the year. Rebalancing your portfolio to the ideal target allocation is especially important after so much market volatility and change. Whether you have personal investments, retirement investments or otherwise, this is a vital step.

"Your target allocation is based on a number of factors, and it will be different for everyone," David explained. "Rebalancing is so important because it allows you to take some risk off the table, take some profit off the table and plan for the next unexpected event. It helps anticipate that your investments are in alignment with your goals for future spending and saving."

The Bottom Line

Especially after a year of massive change in life and business, looking back to

learn before looking ahead to grow may position you for success in 2021. These three keys provide a foundation for all of us to achieve more – such as the financial independence and confidence that you and your family can live the life you've always imagined.

We also understand that every financial journey is unique and includes important personal choices that have significant consequences. That's where we excel.

If you want personalized recommendations for your budget, goals and investments, the Wealth Advisors at David Adams Wealth Group provide a custom roadmap to achieving more for you and your family.

To schedule a complimentary consultation, please contact us at 615-435-3644.

HEALTH TIP



JULIE SCHUTT DIRECTOR OF CLIENT EXPERIENCE

I recently started indoor cycling again (after taking two years off). The phrase "you have to take care of yourself before you can take care of others" has never rang more true since becoming a parent. This has been a huge adjustment for me since taking any time for myself tends to lead to guilt. I'd been trying to get back on the bike for more than a few months now, but it felt like a chore that took me away from my family. In the last few weeks, I

have made a commitment to hop on the bike 3x-4x/week as soon as my toddler goes to bed, so I can enjoy guilt-free. I average a 30-40 min ride and do primarily outdoor or international trails since they're more motivating than studio rides for me. I was worried that exercising so late would cause me to stay awake later, but it has actually helped my sleep tremendously. It is crazy what a difference just getting out of my own head and clipping in makes!

DAVID ADAMS WEALTH GROUP TEAM MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Getting To Know Your Team: Carson K. Odom, CPA, CFP® Wealth Advisor

Carson Odom joined David Adams Wealth Group in January of 2019 as a Relationship Manager and currently serves the role of Wealth Advisor. Prior to his role here, Carson had a brief experience in corporate accounting then three years with a public accounting firm here in Nashville doing taxes and financial statement review for clients. Carson graduated from MTSU Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting. Immediately following his undergrad, he then pursued his Master of Science in Finance degree from MTSU as well. Carson obtained his CPA license from Tennessee in September of 2018 and is also a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professional.

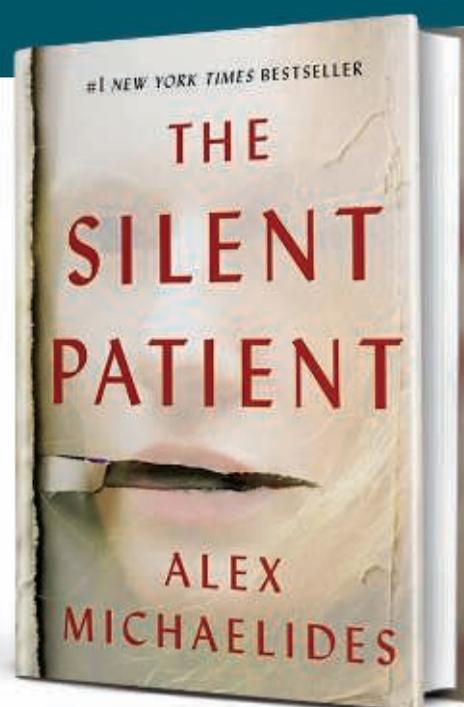
Carson joined the team with a desire to help others in all aspects of their finances. He has always personally enjoyed personal finance and now wants to take his passion and knowledge and use it to help the clients he works with. He's able to take his tax experience and add another depth of analysis for our clients' portfolios.

Carson was born and raised in Smyrna and enjoys spending time with his family. He and his wife, Rachael, have a two year old daughter, Ada Jane, and another girl coming this Spring, Ivy May. He's a huge fan of the Atlanta Braves and Nashville Predators and enjoys spending time outdoors, whether it's playing sports, camping, or hiking a trail.

BOOK RECOMMENDATION

JERI ANNE AGEE SENIOR RELATIONSHIP MANAGER

I love a good mystery! Being an author, I read a lot of different types of books, but my favorite genre has to be Mystery/Thriller. If you want a good page turner with twists and turns, I highly recommend *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides. It is a psychological thriller that debuted on the New York Times Bestseller list at No. 1 in 2019. With over three million copies sold it's a record-breaking thriller that is soon to be made into a major film. If you love a good mystery, you will love *The Silent Patient*.





To Our David Adams Wealth Group Friends and Family...

Happy New Year! 2021 could not seem to come fast enough for many. The year 2020 has clearly been “one of those years” – a year of challenge, opportunity, and resilience. Once again, the year proved that we don’t know what we don’t know. At the end of 2019, the focus was on the election, the trade war with China and concern about North Korea. Three months later, we were faced with a global pandemic, a national economic shutdown, riots, and protests. While many small businesses suffered, others prospered in the new digital environment. I’ve talked to many that had their worst year financially and others literally their best year, depending on the industry. I haven’t seen anything like this in my 20 years in the business.

We started out 2021 with political unrest, which isn’t anything new, yet it felt different and heavier regardless of political preference....**right?**

On a very positive note, and perhaps most heartening, and most American, were the heroes and selflessness of those who put others’ needs before their own. Everyone from those working in essential stores to medical personnel in hospitals risking their own health to put others’ needs before their own.

Investors who had the courage to stick with their plans did well, as is generally the case with patience. Markets hit new highs, and employment numbers are recovering faster than almost any expert expected. Maybe you are happy with the political outcomes, maybe you are fearful of the new administration- that’s ok, just recognize those feelings, take them in for a few moments, days- and then breathe. We WILL move forward, and we will

NOT let fear overshadow our 3 Bucket Approach and Retire While You Work™ philosophy that we so passionately believe in here at our firm.

We have a long way to go, and we will face new and equally frightening challenges in 2021 and beyond. But still, we must keep our eyes on our long-term vision and not make knee-jerk reactions to what’s going on around us.

Although 2020 was a bumpy ride, a much happier milestone was the 17th anniversary of when I founded our practice. My vision was to build a firm to make others’ lives better. The year 2020 marked the final phase of our building expansion, an upgraded website to provide more resources to our clients and a new platform for monitoring portfolios.

As technology continues to evolve, I see many businesses and individuals substitute technology for personal contact and interaction. In our business, we view technology as a way to **enhance** our discussions, not **replace** them.

Often, when we put others first, we help ourselves the most. At the same time, we can’t help others if we need help ourselves. Take care of yourself. We should appreciate what we have while looking to continue to grow and improve. Be patient, and play the long game. Enjoy the journey – sometimes the worst things that happen make us stronger. At the very least, they make good stories later.

Thank you to all my friends and family for their love and support, to my work team for their dedication and tireless work, and to all those who serve others and make our lives safer and better.

Wishing you a healthy, happy and prosperous 2021. The best is yet to come.

David Adams, CPA, CFP®

President, David Adams Wealth Group, LLC



David with niece and nephew.



Dogs on the beach.

IN THE COMMUNITY



For the last couple of years, my heart has been craving another non-profit cause that I could really get behind with passion and dedicate not just my time, but my skills and wisdom learned. I was praying about it and kept coming back to the disturbing reality of Sex Trafficking, and had no idea that it was an issue right here in our backyards, in middle TN. I shared this with my mentor George, and crazy enough, he was working as a consultant for the End Slavery of TN Board! I couldn't believe it, and shared my heart to help. He recommended me to the CEO, they interviewed me, and decided to bring me on in 2021 to their Board. I am so excited to make an impact on this community outside of financial planning. What's even more exciting is I did a "test" campaign on social media and many of you helped me raise \$13,000 (our goal was \$10,000!) in the month of December which helped many victims of trafficking for 2021!



If you would like to learn more about how you can help David fight Sex Trafficking in TN, please call the office or email us!

**Raymond James is not affiliated with End Slavery Tennessee*



What was a highlight of 2020 for you?

JERI ANNE AGE - Senior Relationship Manager



Even among COVID we managed to squeeze in a family vacation to the beach. It was definitely a different experience compared to most of our trips, but it was a special bonding time for our family and I wouldn't trade it for the world.

JULIE SCHUTT - Director of Client Experience



A big highlight of 2020 for me was getting to watch all the "firsts" happen with my son, Hugo. Watching him go from a crawling baby at the beginning of the year to a walking and talking, hilarious toddler was truly memorable.

CARSON ODOM - Wealth Advisor



My favorite memory of 2020 was finding out our family was expanding with another baby girl coming this March!

SPENCER PROVOW - Wealth Management Advisor



As I look back on the last year, I can't help but be thankful for the blessings in my life. Natalae Grace (5) and Adley Kathryn (3) are the best little girls Rebecca and I could ever ask for. With all that happened in 2020, one major positive was being able to spend more time at home with the girls. Also, life has come full circle as Natalae Grace has started watching shows from my childhood - "Full House" and "Saved by the Bell." Now I just need to get her into watching "Seinfeld!"

MYLES ZUEGER - Wealth Advisor



In a year like 2020, fortunately I was able to have the highlight of lifetime by getting married to my wife, Emily! Although it looked different than originally planned, we were still able to be surrounded by our closest friends and family!

CHRISTINE KINSLEY - Chief Financial Officer



This year I met a racing legend, who was also pivotal in the creation of the Nissan 350z. Peter Brock also signed my Nismo 350z, which is one of 1607 produced.

DAVID ADAMS - Founder/CEO



Spending so much quality bonding time with my father in 2020 was my absolute highlight. And with my mother's battle against Alzheimer's, and our inability to see her due to Covid restrictions, this time with dad was a silver lining during a tough time. I am so grateful and cherish every second!

JOLENE - Director of Stress Management



My highlight was turning 4 and still feeling like a puppy (picture above is me at 8 weeks)! Dad continued to take me to the office everyday, across the street to the park to throw ball, and even gave me a slight raise, since apparently my social media posts get more likes and views than all of his combined!

QUESTION OF THE QUARTER



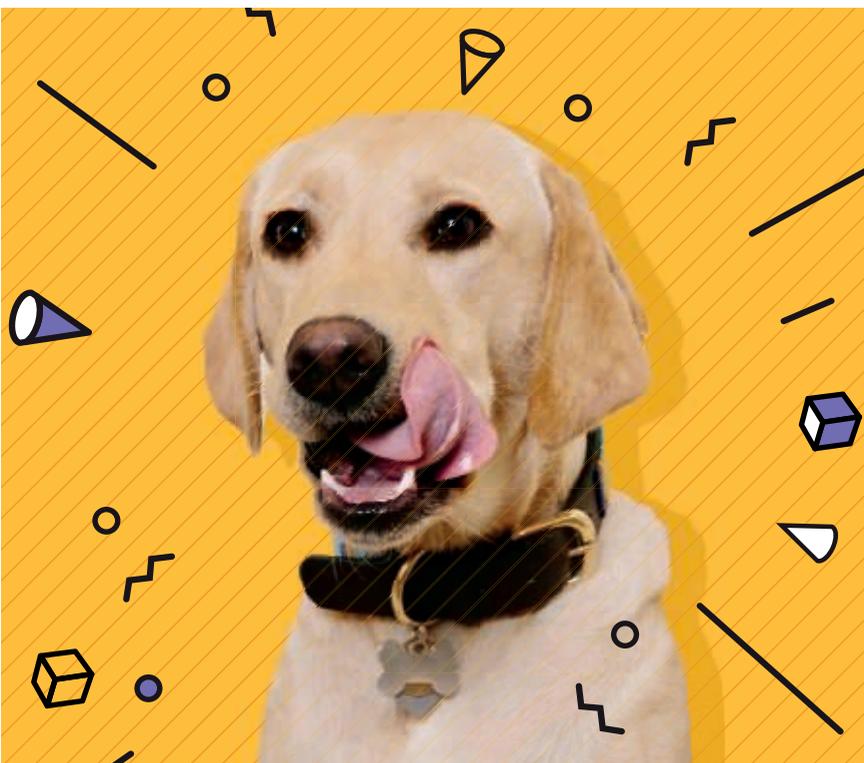
Myles Zueger, CFP® Wealth Advisor

What's the right amount to have in an emergency fund?

How much money should you have in your emergency fund? Or, as we refer to this at David Adams Wealth Group, your bucket #1. There is no right or wrong answer to this question. Often, you may hear the right amount is 3 months of expenses or 6 months of expenses. But the truth is, sometimes there is just a number that feels good. Whether that number is \$20,000, \$50,000, or even \$100,000. The right amount is the amount that helps provide you reassurance. The purpose of your bucket #1 isn't to make money. The purpose of your bucket #1 is to help make sure you are protected and able to cover your

monthly expenses and any emergency expenses that may pop up. We often joke in meetings, tell us how long you are going to live, and we will build you the perfect financial plan. We could make a similar joke with the emergency fund. Tell us when the HVAC is going to go out, when you are going to need new tires, or when an unexpected medical issue will come up and we will tell you just how much money should be in your bucket #1. Although an emergency fund may seem boring compared to other investments accounts, when one of these unexpected events occurs you will be happy you were disciplined enough to have a stable bucket #1.

DEEP THOUGHTS FROM JOLENE - DIRECTOR OF STRESS MANAGEMENT



I'll be honest, while everyone is freaking about some virus and having to stay home, I am living my best life. I've had my dad, and my granddad, at the house more than ever! I get more treats, walks, belly rubs, and finally the attention I deserve. I have noticed that dad hasn't been dressing as nice lately for work and seems to be getting "too comfortable" in his older age. I sure hope he keeps his day job because this girl needs her fancy treats and trips to the dog beach. Plus, I need to keep my position at daddy's firm as the "Director of Stress Management" ... most of my friends seem to think it's cool I hold an executive position at a wealth management firm.





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The Newsletter of
 David Adams Wealth Group

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT WEBINAR

NUTRITION 101: NOT YOUR GRANDMA'S NUTRITION LESSON

Wednesday, March 10th | 11:00am CST

Email julie.schutt@raymondjames.com for Zoom link and password if you'd like to attend!

2021 YEAR TO DATE RETURNS

as of February 12, 2021. Source: J.P.Morgan, Weekly Market Recap

Equities

| | |
|--------------|--------|
| S&P 500 | +4.94% |
| Dow Jones 30 | +3.00% |
| MSCI EAFE | +3.80% |
| NASDAQ | +9.44% |

Fixed

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| U.S. Aggregate | -1.23% |
| Municipals | +0.98% |
| Corporate High Yield | +1.34% |

Commodities

| | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| WTI Crude Oil | +5.75% |
| Gold | -17.16% |
| Bloomberg Commodity Index: | -3.91% |

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middle of Moody's, S&P, and Fitch) are excluded, but Canadian and global bonds (SEC registered) of issuers in non-EMG countries are included. Commodities may be subject to greater volatility than investments in traditional securities. Investments in commodities may be affected by overall market movements, changes in interest rates, and other factors such as weather, disease, embargoes and international economic and political developments. Bloomberg Commodity Indices (BCOM) are financial benchmarks designed to provide liquid and diversified exposure to commodities via futures contracts. Keep in mind that individuals cannot invest directly in any index, and index performance does not include transaction costs or other fees, which will affect actual investment performance. Individual investor's results will vary. Past performance does not guarantee future results. The MSCI EAFE (Europe, Australasia, and Far East) is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure developed market equity performance, excluding the United States & Canada. The EAFE consists of the country indices of 22 developed nations. Raymond James is not affiliated with the book or author mentioned.

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