

## Neugebauer: Summit Gave Me the Tools



Summit alumnus Toby Neugebauer, with his wife, Melissa, and sons Nate (left) and Noah (right)

Twenty years after attending Summit as a student, Toby Neugebauer still keeps books from Summit founder Dr. David Noebel on his nightstand.

Neugebauer, a New York University graduate, now runs a private equity fund that he co-founded in 1998 — Quantum Energy Partners, based in Houston, Texas. His firm manages nearly \$6 billion for its clients, focusing on energy production around the world.

Neugebauer spoke earlier this summer to students at the Summit in Colorado, outlining the debt crisis currently embroiling America and the world. Noting that he had recently delivered the same presentation to Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke, Neugebauer told Summit's new president Dr. Jeff Myers, "I think your students understood more and asked better questions than some of the national

leaders I've spoken to."

Neugebauer started meeting world leaders while traveling the globe on business and riding the campaign trail with his congressman father, for whom he served as campaign manager. When he meets with movers and shakers, Neugebauer uses his Summit training to walk them through how wrong worldviews have led us to the social, political, and economic trials we face today.

Neugebauer notes that he was a skeptic of John Maynard Keynes and Keynesian economics even before attending Summit, but listening to Noebel brought a new sense of clarity. "I didn't understand how strong our cause was," Neugebauer said of the biblical worldview. He describes Summit as a "confidence builder" and also credits his two-week experience for strengthening his faith by showing him how biblical principles just make sense.

Neugebauer was midway through earning a degree in business administration when he came to Manitou Springs in the early '90s, and thinks he would still be involved in business even without Summit's influence. But he said without those lessons, he would have been far less effective in articulating, researching, and understanding ideas at play today.

"Summit brought me a set of tools," he said. "My life has been enriched."

Speaking to students last summer, Neugebauer offered a blow-by-blow explanation of the debt crisis and speculated that this period will be studied by future generations as much as World War II is studied now.

"Our worldview has never been more violently under attack than it is today," Neugebauer said in a recent phone interview. "I can't think of anything more serious." In addition to passing on his life lessons to Summit students, Neugebauer and his wife Melissa, also a Summit grad, have expressed their gratefulness to Summit by hosting events for David Noebel and supporting Summit financially.

Neugebauer is looking forward to sending his two sons to Summit as soon as they are old enough. He's especially interested in Summit Oxford, a semester-long program where students study at Oxford University in England.

"Our time is quickly approaching," he promised.

Neugebauer's Summit lecture is available at <http://vimeo.com/29115347>, or you can order a DVD copy as part of the **Economics Rescue Package** featured on the back cover.



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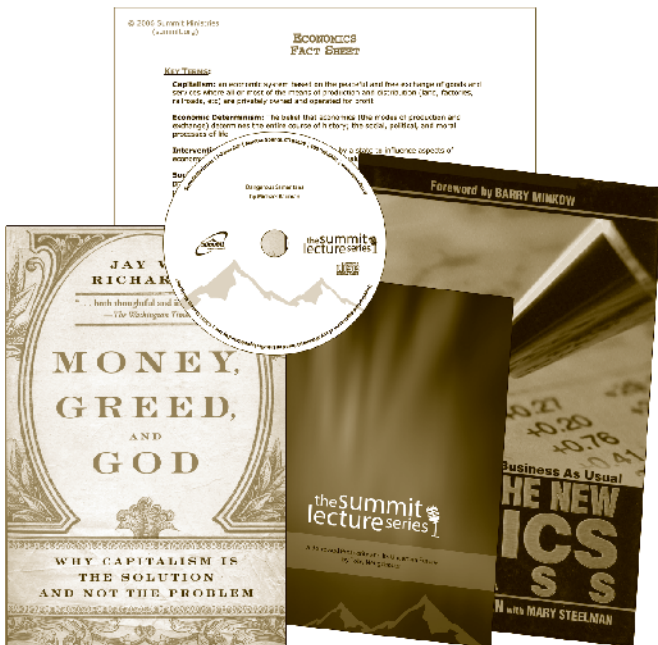
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