

# Investor Discipline

- Humans are not wired for disciplined investing
- Many investors follow their emotions
- Reacting can hurt performance
- Markets have rewarded discipline
- Focus on what you can control



# "The investor's chief problem and even his worst enemy—is likely to be himself."

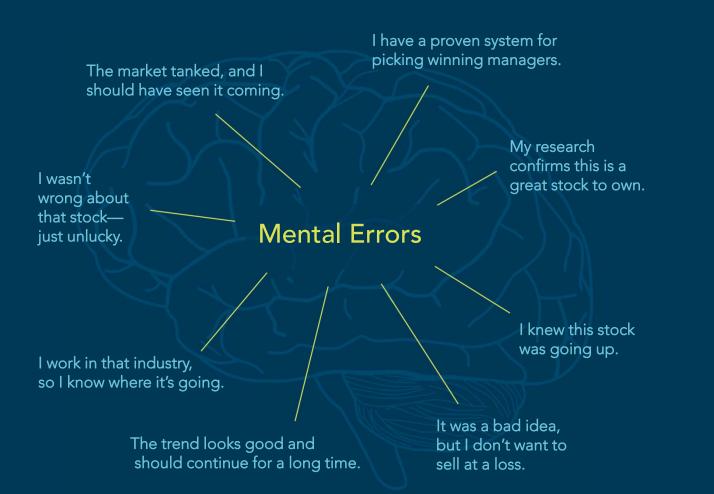
—Benjamin Graham

The Intelligent Investor



#### INVESTOR DISCIPLINE

### Humans Are Not Wired for Disciplined Investing



When people follow their natural instincts, they tend to apply faulty reasoning to investing.



#### Many Investors Follow Their Emotions



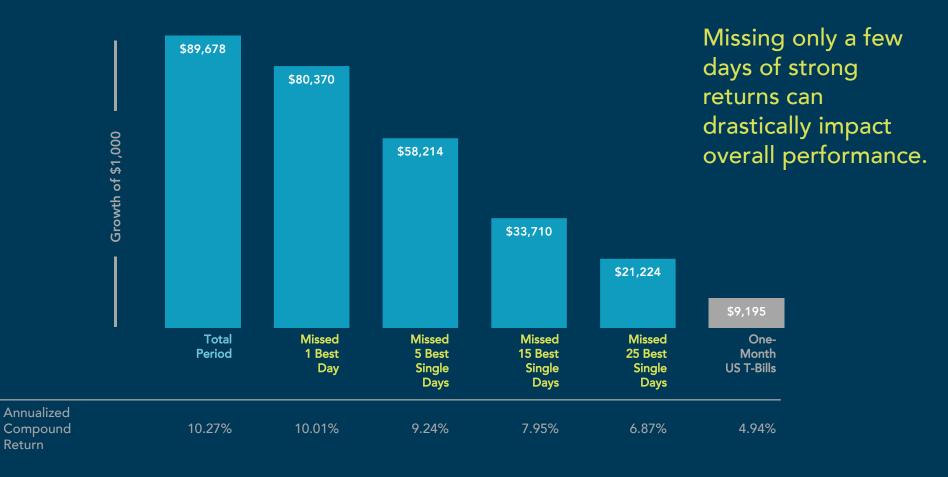
People may struggle to separate their emotions from their investment decisions.

Following a reactive cycle of excessive optimism and fear may lead to poor decisions at the worst times.



## **Reacting Can Hurt Performance**

Performance of the S&P 500 Index, 1970–2015



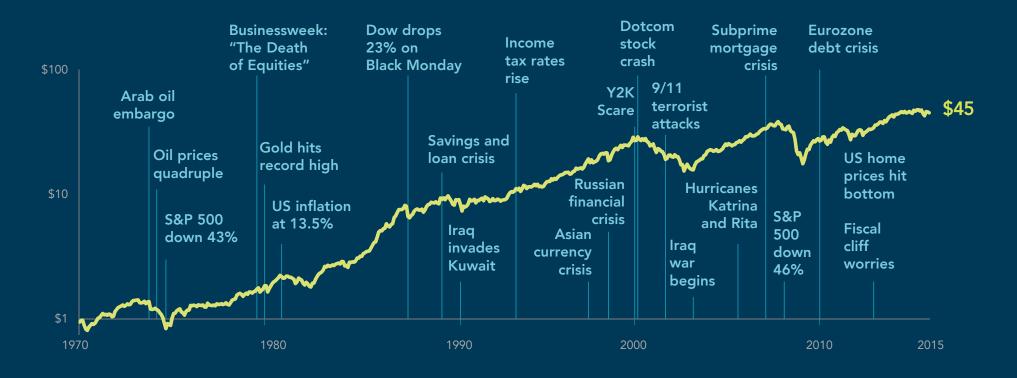
#### In US dollars.

Indices are not available for direct investment. Their performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Performance data for January 1970–August 2008 provided by CRSP; performance data for September 2008– December 2015 provided by Bloomberg. S&P data provided by Standard & Poor's Index Services Group. US bonds and bills data © Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation Yearbook<sup>™</sup>, Ibbotson Associates, Chicago (annually updated work by Roger G. Ibbotson and Rex A. Sinquefield).



### Markets Have Rewarded Discipline

Growth of a dollar—MSCI World Index (net dividends), 1970–2015



To build wealth, you must look beyond the concerns of today and invest for the long term.

In US dollars.

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#### Focus on What You Can Control

Creating an investment plan to fit your needs and risk tolerance

Structuring a portfolio around dimensions of returns

Diversifying broadly

Reducing expenses and turnover

Minimizing taxes

No one can reliably forecast the market's direction or predict which stock or investment manager will outperform.

A financial advisor can help you create a plan and focus on actions that add value.

Diversification neither ensures a profit nor guarantees against loss in a declining market.



## Disclosures

November 11, 2015 Dimensional Fund Advisors LP is an investment advisor registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission.