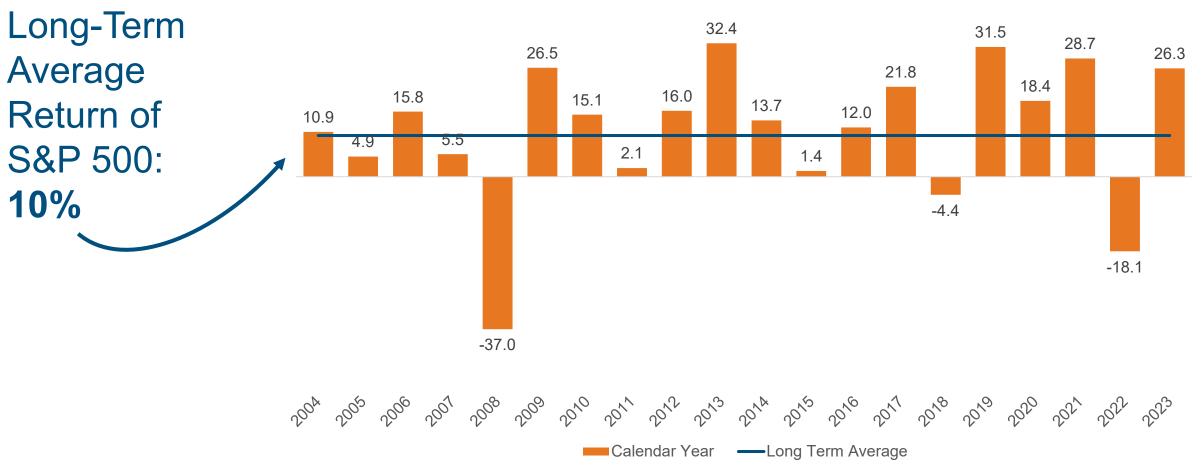
# Why Investing Is Not Simple





# Long-Term Equity Returns Are Not Earned Evenly



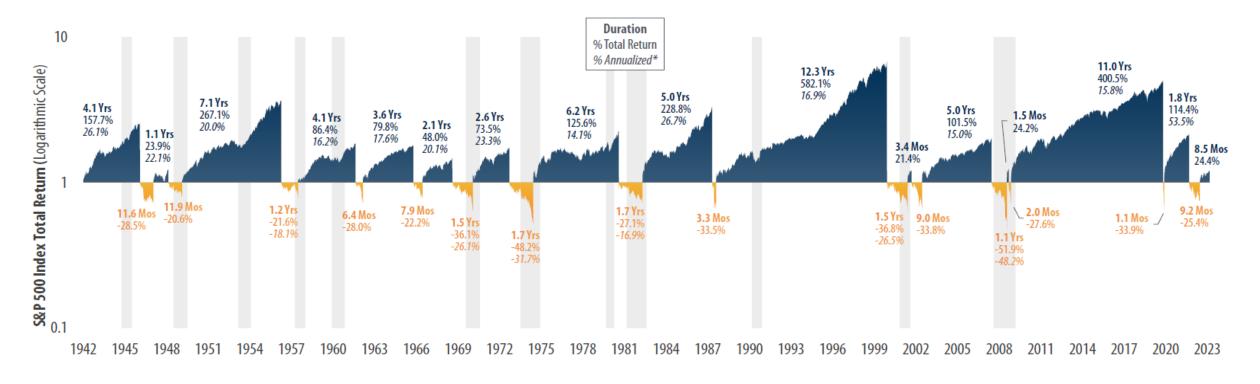
S&P 500 Returns (%)

Source: Zephyr Style Advisor



### Long-Term Averages Include the Ups and Downs

#### US Equity Market – Bull and Bear Cycles (5/1942 – 6/2023)



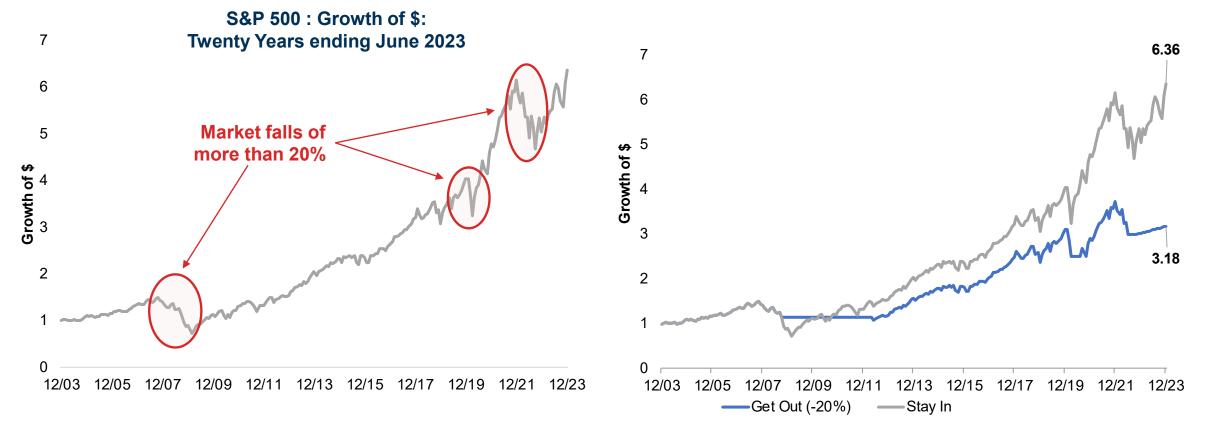
Source: First Trust, "Client Resource Kit – Market Perspectives" US Equity Market represented by S&P 500.



### When Markets Fall, Emotions Can Take Over

We want equity exposure, but the large drops...

...can lead to **emotional decisions** that can impact long-term returns.



Sources: AssetMark, Zephyr Style Advisor. "Get Out (-20%)" Portfolio switches to cash once bear market threshold hit and stays in cash until market recovers to prior high.



### Emotions Can Lead to Investment Mistakes







## Timing the Market

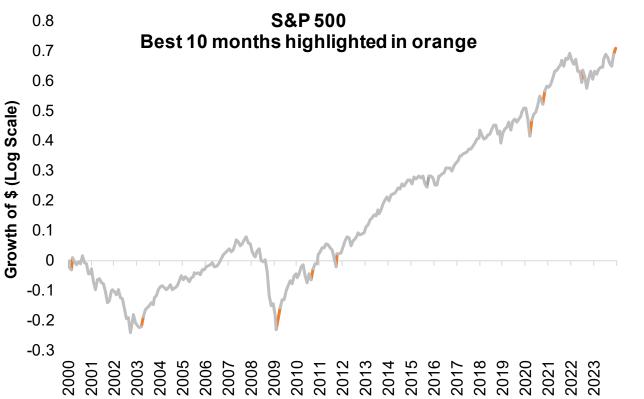
## Negative Headlines = Negative Markets

**Short-Term Focus** 



## Timing the Markets Can Mean Missing Big Market Returns

# Some of the best market returns occur after market downturns...



# ...and missing those months due to an emotional decision can have a big impact on returns.





Sources: AssetMark, Zephyr Style Advisor.



# Scary Headlines Can Offer Investment Opportunities

#### **Ten-Year Annualized Return After the Event**



Pearl Harbor Bombed (12/7/1941)



Kennedy Assassinated (11/12/1963)



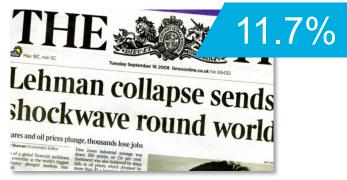


Sputnik Launched (10/4/1957)

Sources: Capital Group: "Guide to Market Recoveries, 2023 edition"



Nixon Resigned (8/9/1974)



Lehman Bankruptcy (9/15/2008)



## Scary Headlines Can Offer Investment Opportunities

1300

#### **US Equity Market Returns During Recessions**





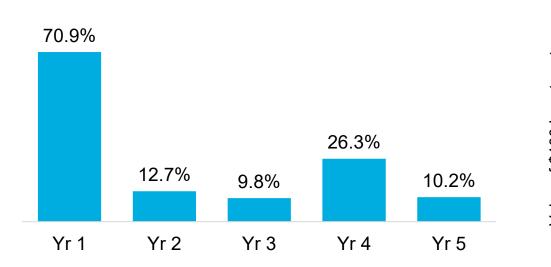


Source FactSet. US Equity Market represented by S&P 500.



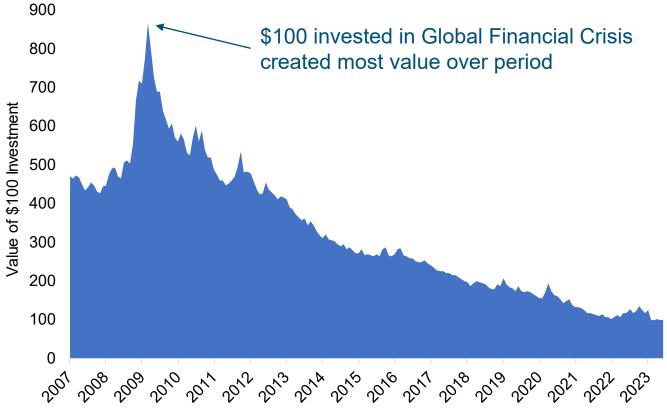
### Bear Markets Can Offer Investment Opportunities

US Equity Market Returns Following Five Deepest Bear Markets (1929 – 2022)



#### Average annualized 5-year return: 23.1%

# Final Value of Each \$100 Monthly Investment in US Equities Starting in 2007

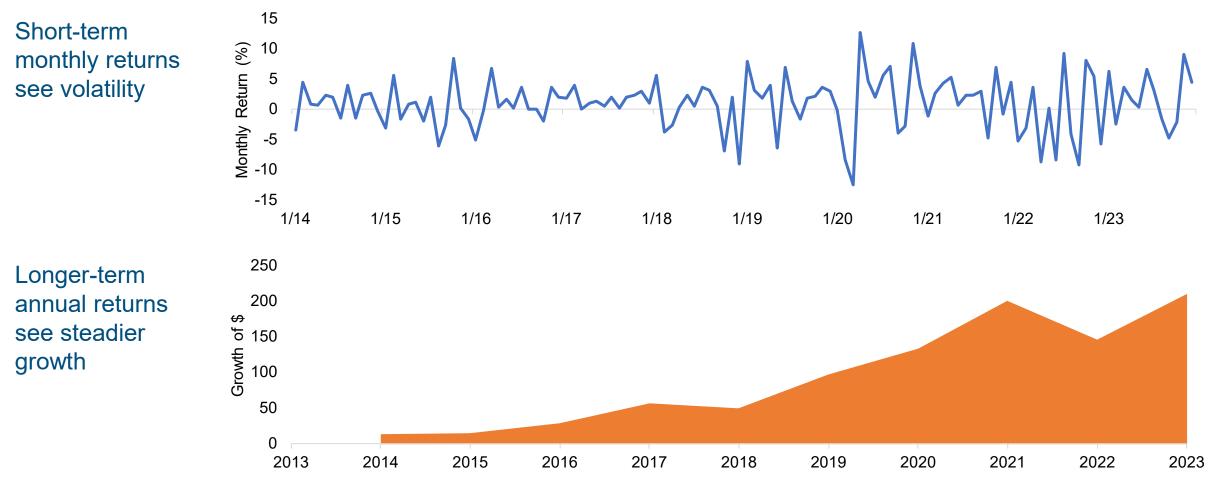


Source: Capital Group, "Guide to Market Recoveries, 2023 Edition", AssetMark, Zephyr Style Advisor. US Equity Market represented by S&P 500.



# Short-Term Focus Loses Sight of Long-Term Goals

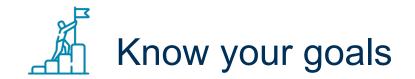
#### **US Equity Market Performance**



Source: AssetMark, Zephyr Style Advisor. US Equity Market represented by S&P 500.



What To Do?











Have a long-term portfolio that adapts for the short-term



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