

## **\$77.52 versus \$26**

**Quick can you name the top five candies in America?** Since we are coming up on Halloween I thought I would share with you what one recent poll found out. Here is the list from number five to number one...

- At number five is, the Kit Kat Bar
- At number four is, the classic Hershey's chocolate bar.
- Number three is, Snickers.
- Number two is M&M's which used to be number one until it was replaced by,
- Number one, Reese's peanut butter cups! 400 million of them are sold a year!

**\$2.2 Billion dollars will be spent on candy alone by Americans this Halloween. Overall the average American will spend \$77.52 on candy, costumes, and decorations.**

**Put that into context with the average amount given weekly by Americans which is \$26!**

Now I don't want you to think I am some spoiled sport. I love candy. In fact I have consumed plenty of those top five. Yet think about it, the average American spends more on dressing up as some ghoulish figure and consuming tons of sugar. About the only result of all that fun is an expanding waist line and a mouth full of cavities.

As we take up today's offering I want you to consider that a gift to God's work is eternal and carries eternal blessings. Consider the words of Jesus who said in Matthew 6, 19 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Every time we take up the offering here you have a chance to make a difference. That difference is in the changed lives of men, women, boys and girls. So enjoy the season but let's put our hearts and treasures in a place of eternal value!