

Cost or Investment?

School is back in session! For parents that is a sigh of relief. For students it is a sigh of dread! Either way going to school costs money even if you attend a public school. Consider that this year Americans will spend, nearly \$84 BILLION dollars on back to school shopping. Families with children plan to spend on average \$687.72!

A recent study broke down the spending this way...

- \$10.2 billion will be spent on clothing
- \$8.8 billion will be spent on electronics
- \$5.6 billion will be spent on shoes
- \$4.9 billion will be spent on school supplies
- 45% said they would buy a laptop computer, while 35% said they would buy a tablet

The same study reported on the spending of college students and found that they would spend \$7.5 billion dollars on snacks and food. I was like, what does that have to do with educational spending? I guess an empty stomach late at night distracts the mind from concentrating.

Do you think the American families, who will on average spend \$687.72 on back to school shopping, see that spent money as a cost or an investment? We might cringe at the cost but we see it as an investment into the future of our children. Parents know it is our responsibility to equip our children to do well in school. We find a way to pay for what we value and we value a good education. We know that investment will pay dividends. The fact remains that the more education a person has the more they will likely make as an adult.

Do you see our offering time as a cost or an investment? Your attitude in giving is reflected by how you answer that. Those that see giving as an investment give freely and generously. Those that see giving as what it costs them give sparingly, if at all.

We believe in the value of a good education but we also believe that without a spiritual foundation knowledge is meaningless. From the nursery through our Student Ministry we attempt to teach spiritual values that WILL impact children for the rest of their lives. Our offering helps support that work. Your gift is thus not a cost to you but an investment into the future of the Church. So give today generously and with joy knowing your gift matters! **Giving is not a cost it is an investment!**