

## **Does Fido Get More Than God?**

Last year Americans spent \$61 billion dollars on their pets —more than the gross domestic product of all but 64 countries in the world. That's double the amount shelled out on pets a decade ago. The total annual percentage of money spent on pets in the U.S. is 1.4%. This comes out to an average of \$690 a year spent on pets per household.

Consider that the median amount of money given by the U.S. Christian to a church each year is \$200. That translates out to about 0.62% of their income. After hearing this it makes you wonder if Fido is not getting more than God. What does it say about what we truly value? We love pets around here. In fact we all have pets. Yet hearing statistics like this does make you wonder where our priorities are. Having a pet is a wonderful thing but should what you spend on pets be more than what you give to God?

Paul admonished the Corinthians by saying, “But just as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us – see that you excel in this grace of giving.” II Corinthians 8:7 This morning as our ushers come forward to collect the offering I want to challenge you to excel in your giving.

While we certainly want you to love and care for Fido at the same time we want you to be even more concerned about the Kingdom of God. What does your giving say about what you value? Today is a great day to show your love for Christ with a gift to His church.