

The Number One Reason People Give for NOT Giving

“I can’t afford to give.” Have you ever heard that one? It is the number one reason people give for why they are not giving. Is that really true? Especially here in America are church going people so strapped financially that they cannot give? The truth for those that use this line is that they don’t have a giving problem they have a spending problem!

Consider these facts about how we Americans spend our money...

- The average smoker spends over \$1,500 a year on cigarettes.
- The average American loses almost \$400 per year on gambling.
- The average American spends \$1 of every \$100 dollars they spend on alcohol.

You say you don’t have those vices. Consider this...

- We spend on average \$2,787 eating out \$1,200 of that amount on fast food a year.
- We spend on average \$1,092 on coffee!
- We spend more than \$12 billion dollars annually on bottled water!

\$200. That is the medium gift to a church ANNUALLY!

Here is my point. We spend money on what we want to spend money on. Our giving patterns say everything about what we value and what we hold as important.

At OUR CHURCH we take up an offering every week and never apologize that we ask you to give. We do this because your generous gifts funds all the missions and ministry we do. What you give isn’t wasted. Your gifts have a much more lasting impact than the Big Mac you might buy today after church. There is nothing wrong with eating out UNLESS eating out means you can’t afford to give. This morning’s offering is a good chance for you to clarify what is truly important to you.

Jesus said, “Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” **Based upon the promises of God about giving you can’t afford NOT to give!**