

## The Value of \$967 Dollars

**\$967 dollars.** That is what Americans plan on spending this Christmas season according to a study done by the National Retail Federation. That is a lot of ties and socks and of course a lot of toys!

Speaking of toys guess what is projected to be the top seller for girls? Barbie. Barbie may be the only woman in America that truly never ages nor does she ever need plastic surgery. Of course that is because she is plastic!

For boys the top projected toy will be Lego's. Wasn't Noah's Ark built of Legos? They seem to have been around for about that long. Lego's are another plastic toy that would probably endure through a nuclear blast.

Speaking of plastic, the same report found that credit cards are the most popular form of paying for our Christmas stuff. So, we are going to spend more AND use our credit cards more thus increasing not only the haul of stuff we have but adding to our debt load. Some people tragically are still paying for last year's Christmas gifts.

Have you ever thought, is it worth it? Do we truly get the value we want from spending \$967 dollars? How many toys, ties and socks will be discarded or broken days after they are opened? The joy we experience from those gifts for the most part is temporary and fleeting.

Let me share with you something that truly does bring value. A gift here to YOUR CHURCH NAME is truly a gift that keeps on giving. We value your gifts of generosity. We use every gift wisely to enhance the Kingdom of God. The list of things we do as a result of the generosity of our members is more than I can share with you now. Literally a gift given here impacts not only our community but the work of God around the world.

We want you to have fun this Christmas season. Buy those toys, socks and ties. Yet in the midst of this commercialization of the season don't forget what truly lasts. A gift here will make a difference for someone. Your gifts will last into eternity. I believe that a gift today to YOUR CHURCH NAME is the best value you can spend this Christmas.

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