Will \$600 Billion Change the World? – November 30th

It is estimated that Americans will spend over \$600 Billion dollars on Christmas this year! Some of you this weekend helped add to that total with your shopping! In fact the estimated average that shoppers spent on Black Friday will be over \$400. Last year on the Monday following Thanksgiving on what is now called Cyber Monday Americans will spent \$196.46. Consider that \$200 a YEAR is the medium gift to a church.

What will we spend that \$600 billion on? Here is a list of some of the things we will spend our Holiday money on...

Flowers "Poinsettias"	\$2.0	Billion
Wrapping Paper	\$2.6	Billion
Cards and Postage	\$2.8	Billion
Christmas Trees	\$3.4	Billion
Christmas Decorations	\$ 12	Billion
Food and Candy	\$ 31	Billion
Beer, Wine, and Spirits	\$148	Billion
Gifts	\$400	Billion

While I am not against holiday spending how much of it will last or truly make a difference? Now I want you to consider some of the things we do here at OUR CHURCH that does make a difference...List various missions and ministry accomplishments of the last year.

- We gave out \$\$\$ to poor and needy people this past year through our Pantry.
- We sent teams on mission trips to...
- We impacted 125 children in VBS this summer.
- List any other big wins your church accomplished.

By God's grace, your service AND your faithful gifts YOU did that! So, while you are stressing out about the latest greatest gift to give. While you are thinking about which tie to buy your least favorite uncle or what pies, cakes or candies to purchase, don't forget how to really make an impact. Giving to OUR CHURCH helps us fulfill our mission and that last for all eternity.

So as our ushers come forward this morning let's give our money to that which really matters and will change the world!