

Our faith determines our eternal destiny or giving determines our eternal reward...  
Our attitude on giving changes regularly, but our attitude on spending never changes...  
The smoke screen to learning this truth...the church just wants my money...don't listen  
Some pocket change ism's

**Atheism** – you don't believe that God has anything to do with my money

**Capitalism** – I believe in growing my capital...the American way

**Commercialism** – making a profit

Not the church...not the staff...over indulgence...I want my kids to want to be here!

Exhaustion sets in because you don't invest here!

**Egocentrism** – thinking of the one...ME

**Humansim** – thought of human interest over supernatural or divine matters.

Suspicion – Ushers, Peggy, Accountability, Ministry, pastors new lexus?

This is suspicious...BNC gives approximately \$9 per person –

Our church averages \$4500 a year...or less 3% gives the cornerstone...

**Secularism** – rejection of religion...state of being secular

Who gets your pocket change? My kids...

They will adopt your heart on giving...they are the future of the church...

Judges 2:10 *“After that whole generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation grew up, who knew neither the LORD nor what he had done for Israel.”*

What stops generous giving?

Materialism – desire for possessions

Video

Ill. Closet \$100

1 Timothy 6:17 *“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.”*

How do I know if I am materialistic...

- 1) Are you content with your salary?
- 2) Are you content with your stuff?
- 3) Will you where something from last season?
- 4) Has your desire to possess messed up your budget or set you back?
- 5) Has it impeded or halted your ability to give?
- 6) Are you embarrassed at what your husband, spouse, parent provides for you?
- 7) What makes you feel successful with those around you?  
(ie...car, house, ball glove-shoe, gaming system, clothing)

### **Pursuit of Possession results in Spiritual Digression**

Matthew 6:24 *“No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God*

*and Money. “*

He didn't say: Satan, Sex, Stuff, Self,

Luke 6:38 *“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.”*

### **Pursuit of Possession results in Marital Aggression**

NEVER HAVE ENOUGH.

Ecclesiastes 5:10 *“Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income.”*

Proverbs 18:11 *“The wealth of the rich is their fortified city; they imagine it an unscalable wall.”*

HAVE MONEY IN THE BANK BUT NO PEACE IN THEIR HEARTS.

Proverbs 15:16 *“Better a little with the fear of the LORD than great wealth with turmoil.”*

### **Pursuit of Possession results in Financial Recession**

FIND IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO GIVE BIG.

Luke 12:15 *“A man's life doesn't consist in the abundance of his possessions.”*

**Americans get 50 unsolicited credit card offers each year.**

**Americans have over 1 billion cards.**

**Credit debt 735 billion; about 31% higher than it was 5 years ago.**

**Average American owes \$8100 in credit card debt.**

**The average member here at 7.6 Plastic People eaters.**

**If I pay \$141.62 per month on \$8100 at 19.8% = 40 years.**

**If I invest \$8100 at 12% for 40 years = \$1,017,998.50.**

2 Corinthians 8:2-3 *“Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability.”*

### **Pursuit of Possession results in Thing Obsession**

Eccl 6:9 *“Enjoy what you have rather than desiring what you don't have. Just dreaming about nice things is meaningless—like chasing the wind.” (NLT)*

Never purchase to 1) keep up, 2) one up or 3) show up!!!!

Most of us are building our **thing-dom** instead of His **kingdom** in our lives!!!

