

“What are we here for in the first place?

The fundamental answer...is to become genuine human beings, reflecting the God in whose image we're made, and doing so in worship on the one hand and in mission, its full and large sense, on the other; and that we do this not least by 'following Jesus.' The way this works out is that it produces, through the work of the Holy Spirit, a transformation of character. This transformation will mean that we do indeed 'keep the rules'—though not out of a sense of externally imposed duty, but out of character that has been formed within us. And it will

mean that we do indeed 'follow our hearts' and live 'authentically'—but only when, with that transformed character fully operative (like an airline pilot with a lifetime's experience), the hard work up front bears fruit in spontaneous decisions and actions that reflect what has been formed deep within. And, in the wider world, the challenge we face is to grow and develop a fresh generation of leaders, in all walks of life, whose character has been formed in wisdom and public service, not in greed for money or power.” – N.T. Wright

## How does a heart that's selfish, greedy and anxious become one that's generous, grateful and content?

### ➤ Excel in the grace of giving

Matthew 6:19-21

19 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

### ➤ Monitor the climate of your interior world

Hebrews 13:5

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

"your life" = *tropos* = character, inner life, environment of your life, root word for "tropical"

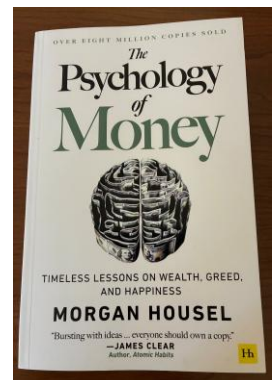
1 Timothy 6:10

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

Where attention goes, affection flows.

"No one—not a single person out of a thousand—said that to be happy you should try to work as hard as you can to make money and buy the things you want."

"No one—not a single person—said it's important to be at least as wealthy as the people around you, and if you have more than they do it's real success."



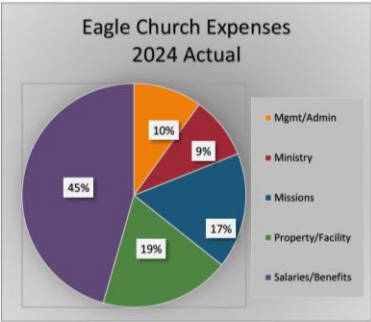
"No one—not a single person—said you should choose your work based on your desired future earning power."

"Your kids don't want your money (or what your money buys) anywhere near as much as they want you. Specifically, they want you with them."

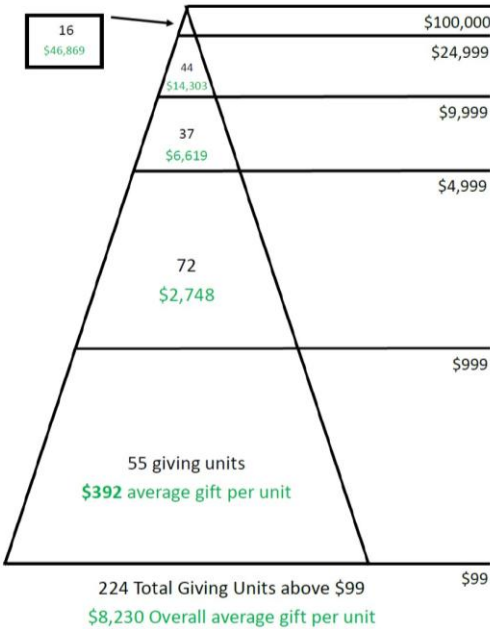
➤ **Stay at it—a long obedience in the same direction**

Matthew 6...

When you pray...when you fast...when you give.



**Generosity/Helping Others 2024**  
**Total = \$281,583**  
 Global Missions: \$177,433  
 Local Missions: \$98,417  
 Benevolence: \$5,733



## NEXT STEPS

**NEW HERE? CHECK OUT [EAGLECHURCH.COM/SUNDAY](http://EAGLECHURCH.COM/SUNDAY)  
 STOP AT THE WELCOME KIOSK ON YOUR WAY OUT, WE HAVE A GIFT FOR YOU!**

- PRAYER SETS: SUNDAYS, 9AM | TUESDAYS, 10AM | WEDNESDAYS, 6:30PM
- CONNECT WITH A SMALL GROUP? | EMAIL PASTOR TED, [tharris@eaglechurch.com](mailto:tharris@eaglechurch.com)
- VOLUNTEER TRAINING FOR EAGLE KIDS | SEPT 21, 11:30, LUNCH PROVIDED
- WOMEN'S DINNER OUT | SEPT 30, 6PM | THAI CORNER
- MEN'S GROUP | SATURDAYS, 7:30AM, HATTIE'S COFFEE HOUSE
- STUDENT MINISTRY | SUNDAYS | MIDDLE-SCHOOL 10AM, HIGH SCHOOL, 4-6PM

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