

You Are Richer Than You Think!

Few of us here would consider ourselves rich. Yet the average American is just that compared to most of the world. Out of curiosity I did some research to see just where we rank. You know what that means, I Googled it! Here is what I found out...

The median income for U.S. households for 2014 is estimated to be \$53,891. Some of us are higher than that and some lower. However if you put that number into a site that I found that ranks out a person's wealth you would rank in the top **0.25%** of richest people in the world. \$54K a year makes you the 15,249,271st richest person on earth by income out of the 7.2 billion people of our planet! Don't you feel rich already?

So why is that important and what does it matter? Sometimes the right perspective helps us establish what is important in life. It also helps us understand Scripture better. Consider Paul's advice to Timothy in I Timothy 6:17-19 from The Message...

"Tell those rich in this world's wealth to quit being so full of themselves and so obsessed with money, which is here today and gone tomorrow. Tell them to go after God, who piles on all the riches we could ever manage—to do good, to be rich in helping others, to be extravagantly generous. If they do that, they'll build a treasury that will last, gaining life that is truly life."

Every time we take up the offering here you get a chance to do good, to be rich in helping others! That is why we exist as a church. To help others. Your extravagant generosity helps us to just exactly that. You by the wealth God has given you can bless others who are less fortunate.

What is exciting, is that when we are generous God blesses us even further. Extravagant generosity builds for you a treasury that will last for all eternity. Let's be extravagantly generous this morning!