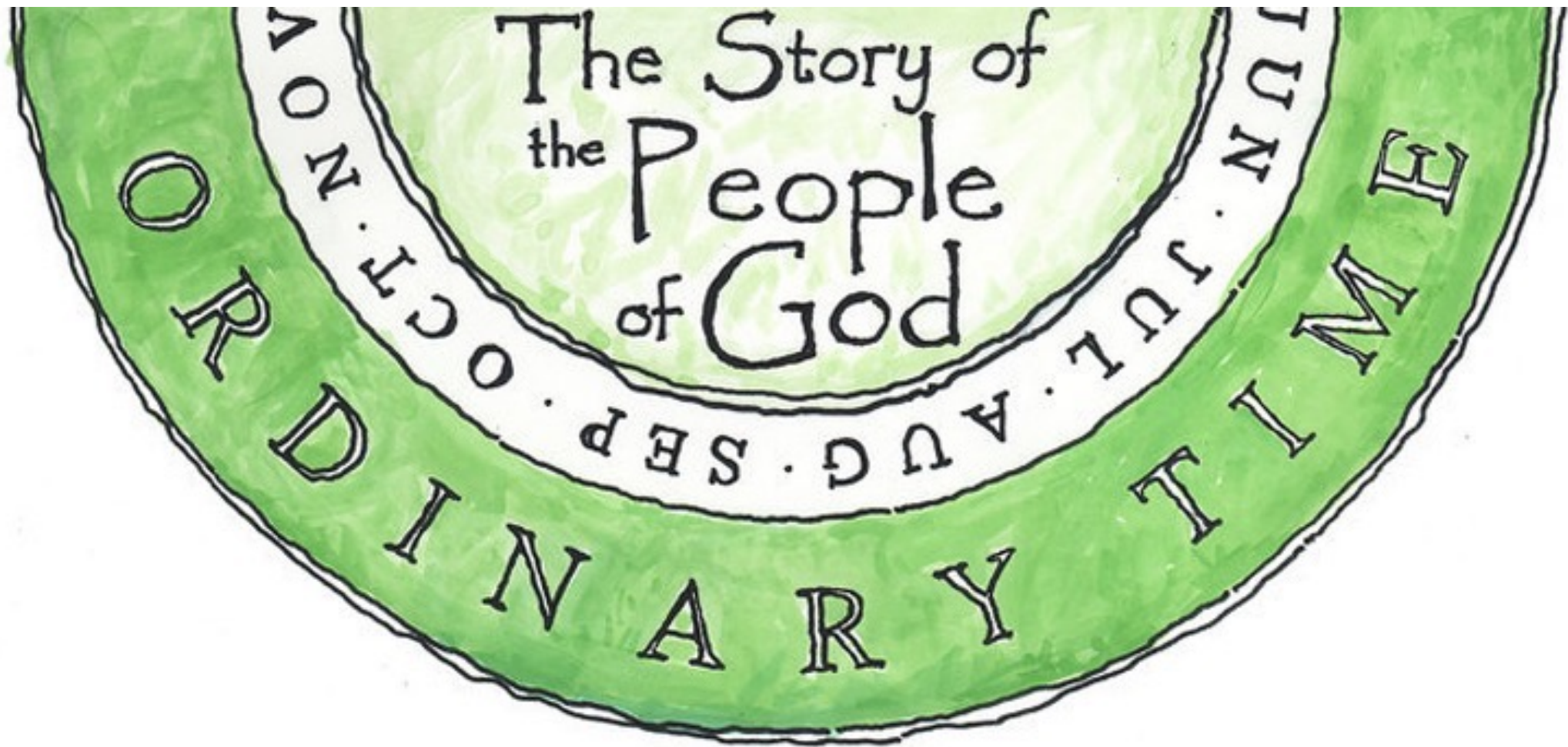


Shepherd of Israel, hear our prayer
as your Son heard the plea
of the criminal crucified with him.
Gather into Christ's holy reign
the broken, the sorrowing,
and the sinner, that all may know
wholeness, joy, and forgiveness.
Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

A decorative banner at the bottom of the slide. It features a dark background with a colorful Venn diagram of three overlapping circles (red, green, and blue) in the center. To the left of the circles, there are stylized white outlines of hands reaching towards the center. To the right, there is a white outline of a fishnet or mesh pattern.



The Reign of Christ -or- Christ the King Sunday



HOLY BIBLE

COL
1:15-20

*No one can serve two masters.
Either you will hate the one
and love the other, or you
will be devoted to the one
and despise the other.
You cannot serve both
God and Mammon.*

HOLY
BIBLE

MATT

6:24

No one can serve two masters.

*Either you will hate the one
and love the other, or you
will be devoted to the one
and despise the other.*

You **cannot** serve both
God and Mammon.

HOLY
BIBLE

MATT

6:24

The ancient world (knew many gods) and knew them well. (One of them was) MAMMON, the god of money... Today's Western world hardly needs reminding about the...worship of money in our society. London has prided itself on being the financial capital of the world...



...the major financial scandals and banking crises that have shaken our system over the last (several decades) have done nothing to damage our faith in this ancient, yet very modern, god. We still assume that (when) something (goes horribly) wrong, the only thing to do is to shore up the system and get it going again...



...despite the gross inequities,
the countries still suffering from
unpayable debt, the rising tide
of poverty, (the growing chasm
of income inequality), and so on...



MAMMON

- A false god promising the peace and security it can never deliver



MAMMON

- A false god promising the peace and security it can never deliver
- The City of Babylon (Rev 18) embodies Mammon's avarice and greed

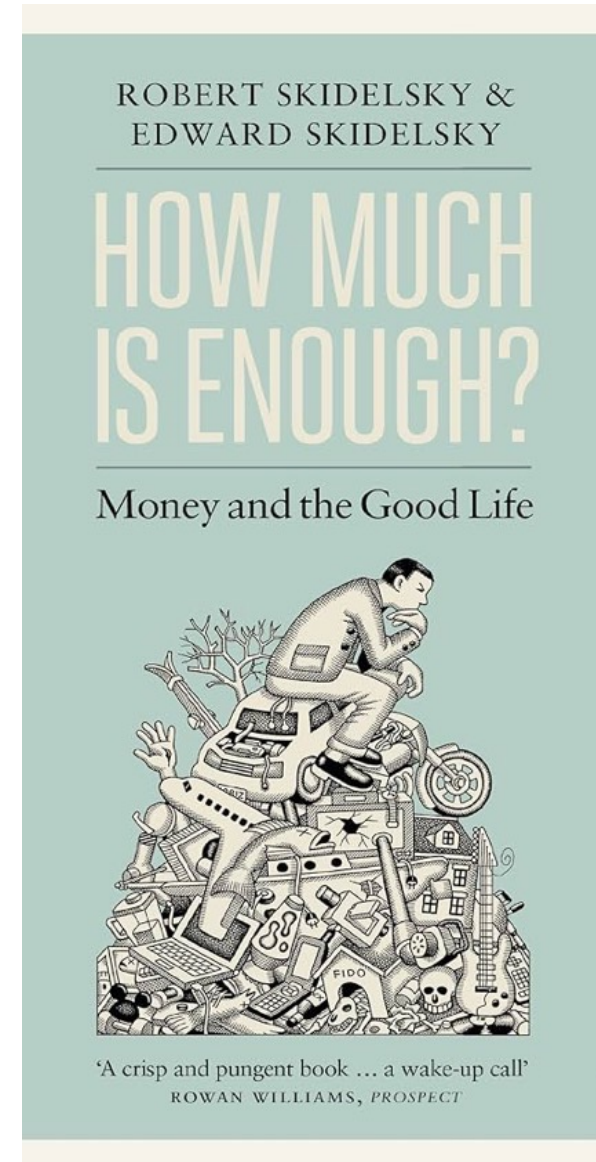


MAMMON

- A false god promising the peace and security it can never deliver
- The City of Babylon (Rev 18) embodies Mammon's avarice and greed
- Seeks our allegiance, drains our humanity, leads us away from wisdom and in to foolishness



The pursuit of money as an end in itself is bad not just because it is detrimental to happiness or the environment, but because it is absurd. It rests on a misunderstanding of the nature and function of money. Money is essentially a means to the good, (but) to treat its accumulation as an ultimate goal is to fall victim to delusion.



- 20 billionaires opposed his campaign
- Spent over \$22 MILLION



ZORAN
MAMDANI

- 20 billionaires opposed his campaign
- Spent over \$22 MILLION
- “They’re spending more money than I would even tax them...”



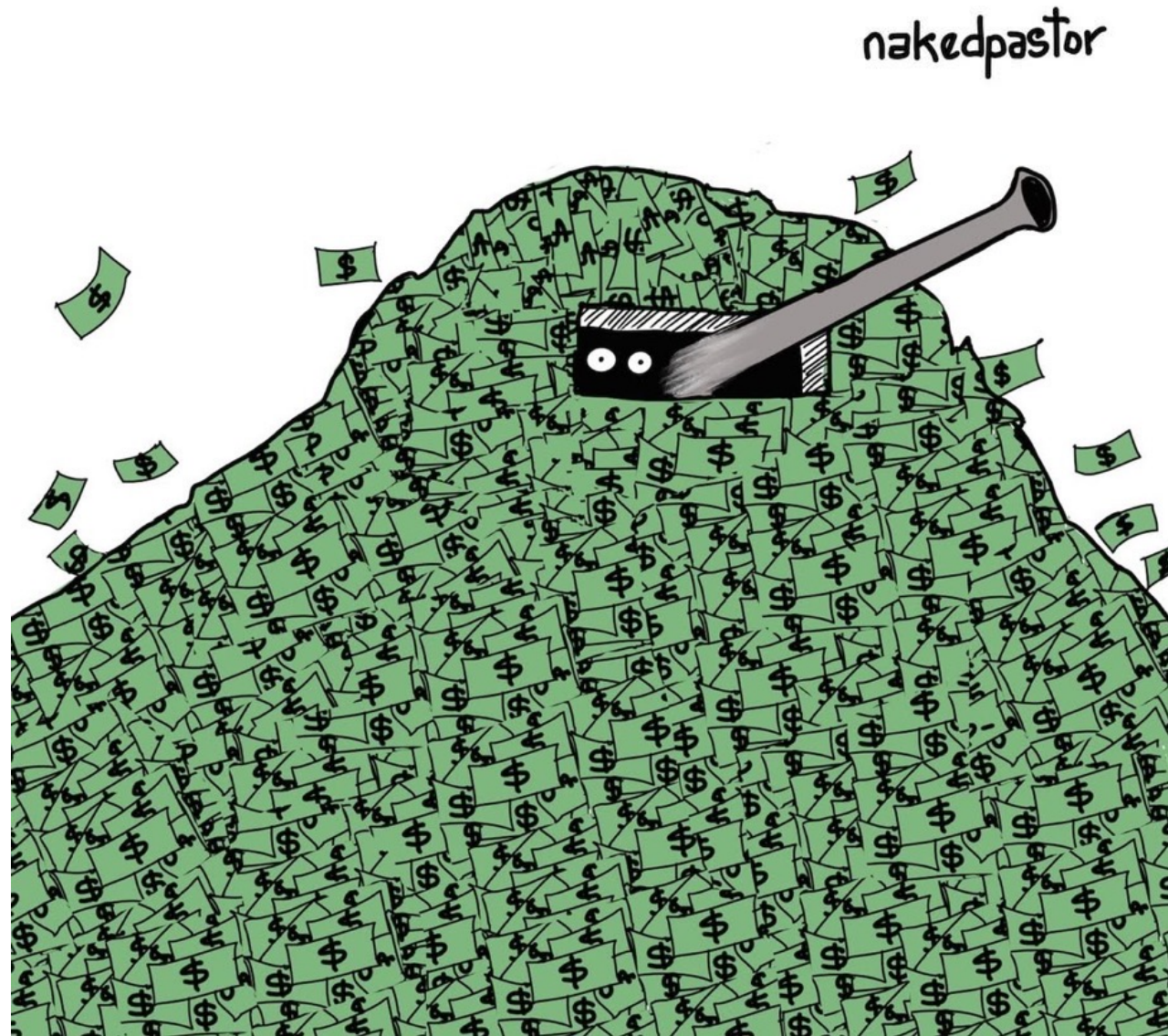
ZORAN
MAMDANI

- 20 billionaires opposed his campaign
- Spent over \$22 MILLION
- “They’re spending more money than I would even tax them...”
- Q: why would billionaires gamble that much of their own money in a political election at the City level?
Possible A’s: can afford it; don’t want to pay higher taxes; fear of losing it...



ZORAN
MAMDANI

“I've always been taught that riches decay. But it's very interesting to see... billionaires actually believe it and live in constant fear that they can lose everything in a moment.”



VISUALIZING 1 BILLION DOLLARS

- $\$1,000,000 \times 1,000 =$
 $\$1,000,000,000$



VISUALIZING 1 BILLION DOLLARS

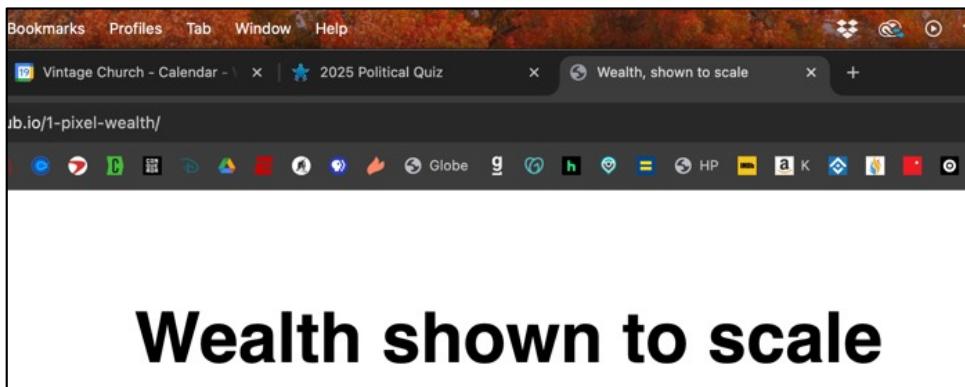
- $\$1,000,000 \times 1,000 =$
 $\$1,000,000,000$
- *What does a billion dollars look like.*
website

WHAT DOES ONE
BILLION DOLLARS LOOK
LIKE?

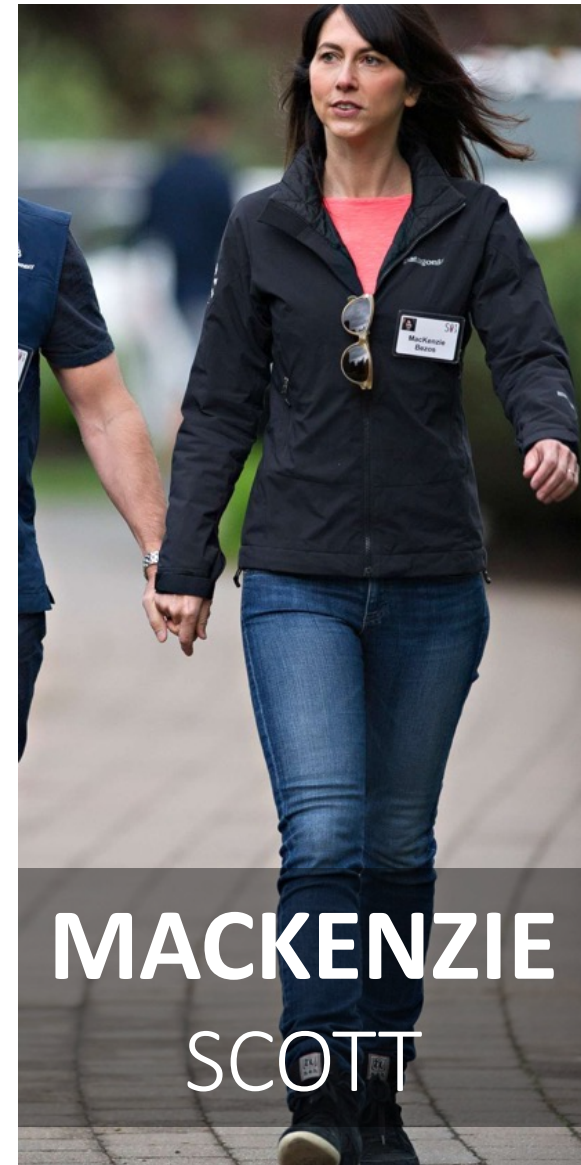


VISUALIZING 1 BILLION DOLLARS

- $\$1,000,000 \times 1,000 = \$1,000,000,000$
- *Whatdoesabilliondollarslooklike.
website*
- *Eattherichtextformat.github*



- Ex-wife to Jeff Bezos
- Estimated wealth of \$34 BILLION, 4% of Amazon stake in 2019
(*est. worth: \$962B; assets: \$62B; net profits: \$11.6B*)
- Signed the *Giving Pledge* to give away at least half of her income over the course of her lifetime
- Charitable giving now tops \$19B **56%**



MACKENZIE
SCOTT

WEBSITES TO VISIT

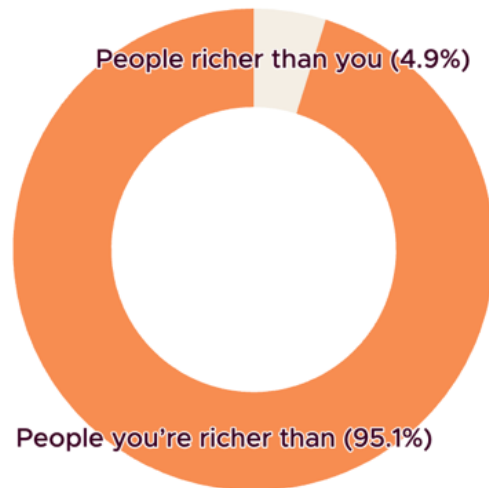
- *Whatdoesabilliondollarslooklike.
website*
- *Eattherichtextformat.github*
- *Givingwhatwecan.org*



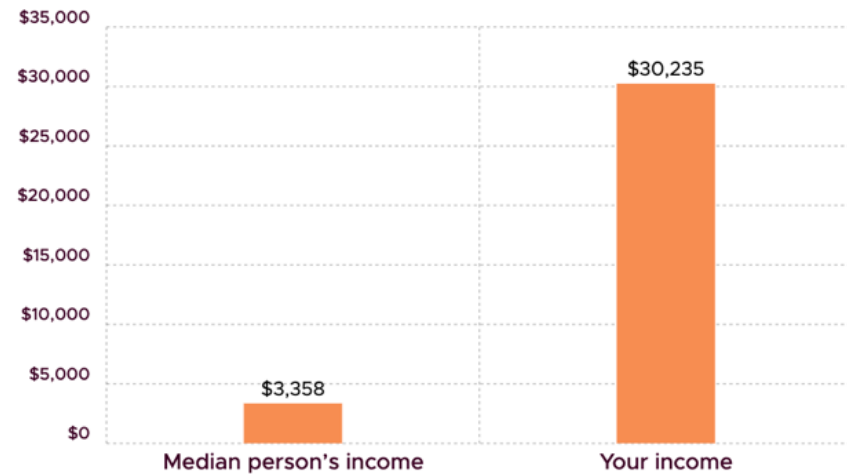
How Rich Am I?

Find out how rich you are compared to the rest of the world





You are in the richest 4.9% of the global population



Your income is 9 times the global median

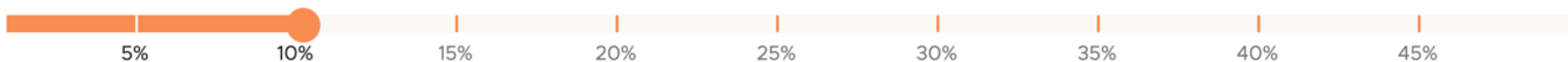
Incomes shown in [2021 international dollars](#) per household member

❗ But wait...my cost of living is higher than in other countries!

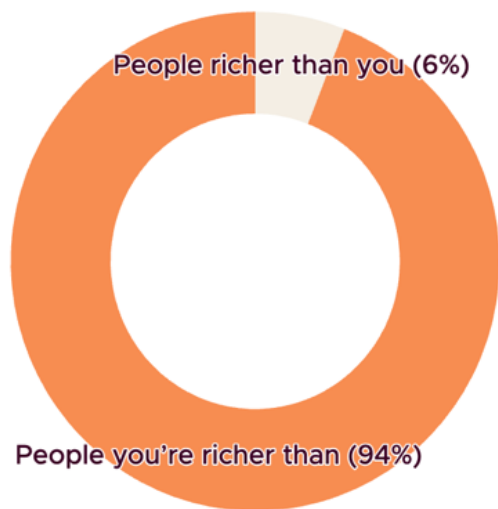
These results *already account* for the differences in cost of living between countries and the fact that money goes further in lower-income countries. This is done by comparing household incomes using Purchasing Power Parity (PPP), which adjusts your income to account for the differences in what money can buy in different locations. [Learn more about our methodology and data sources.](#)



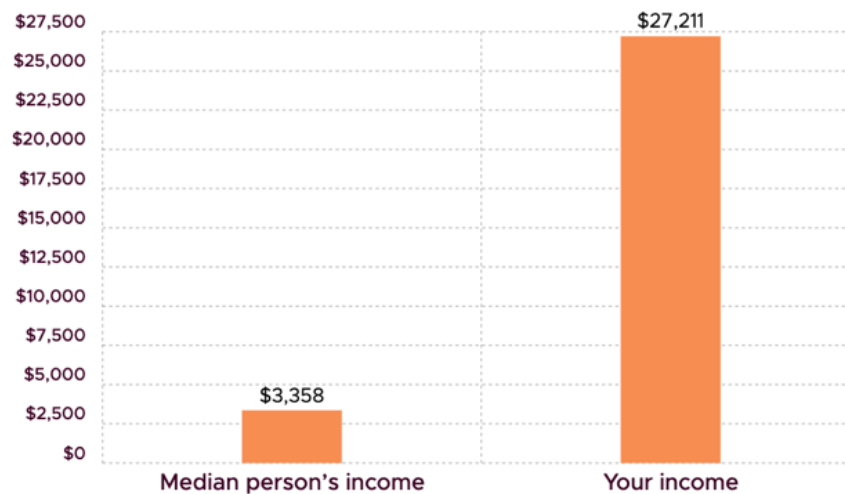
If you were to donate 10% of your income...



...you would have a household income of \$[redacted] and would make [redacted] in donations...



You would still be in the richest 6% of the global population



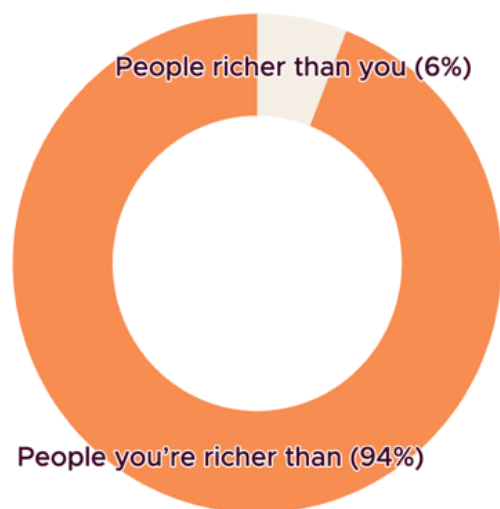
Your income would still be 8.1 times the global median



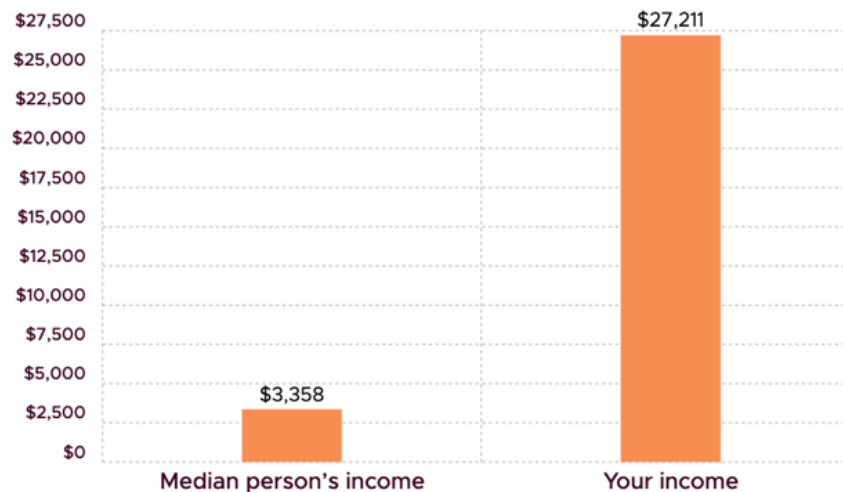
If you were to donate 10% of your income...

10% giving would cover 4% of Vintage's total annual budget

...you would have a household income of \$██████████ and would make ██████████ in donations...



You would still be in the richest 6% of the global population



Your income would still be 8.1 times the global median

(When I worked among you) I coveted no one's silver or gold or clothing. You know for yourselves that I worked with my own hands to support myself and my companions. In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

HOLY
BIBLE

ACTS
20:33-35

POSITIVE IMPACT OF GENEROSITY **ON THE HUMAN BODY**

- Boosts our mood, self-esteem, and our immune system
- Reduces stress, anxiety, and our blood pressure
- Associated chemicals released in the body can help reduce aches and pains, and increase sleep



DR. KELLY
HARDING

CHRISTIAN GIVING IN USamerica

- Only 5% of church goers give away a full 10% of their income



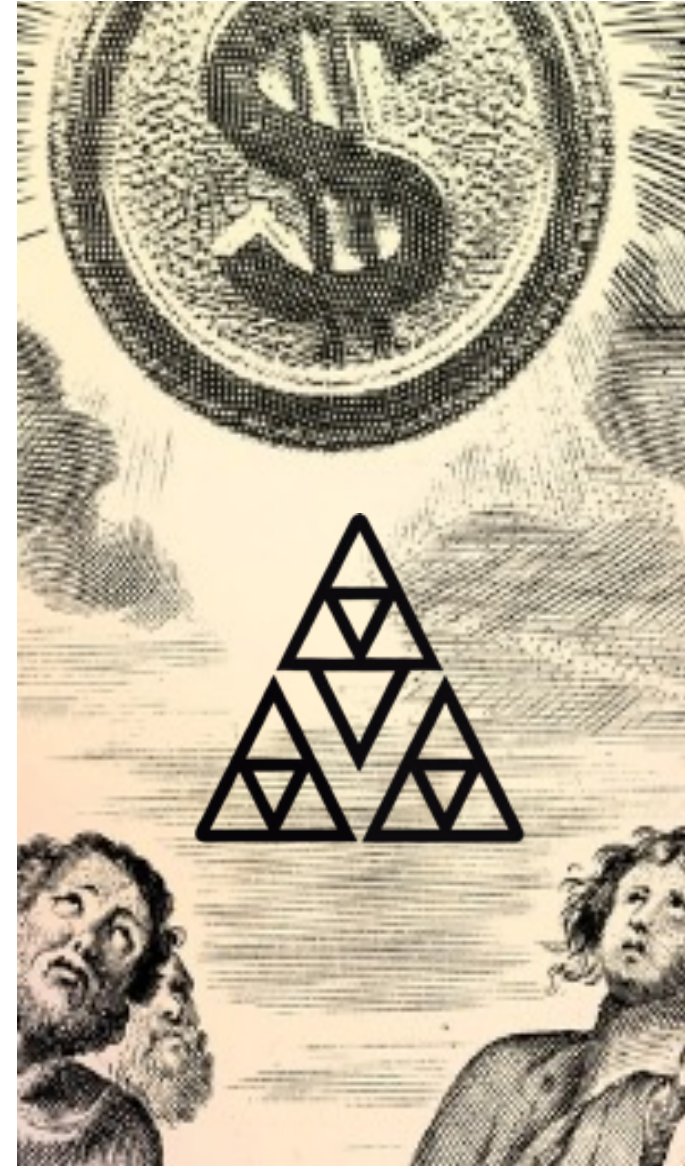
CHRISTIAN GIVING IN USamerica

- Only 5% of church goers give away a full 10% of their income
- The average giving of those who attend church regularly is 2.5%



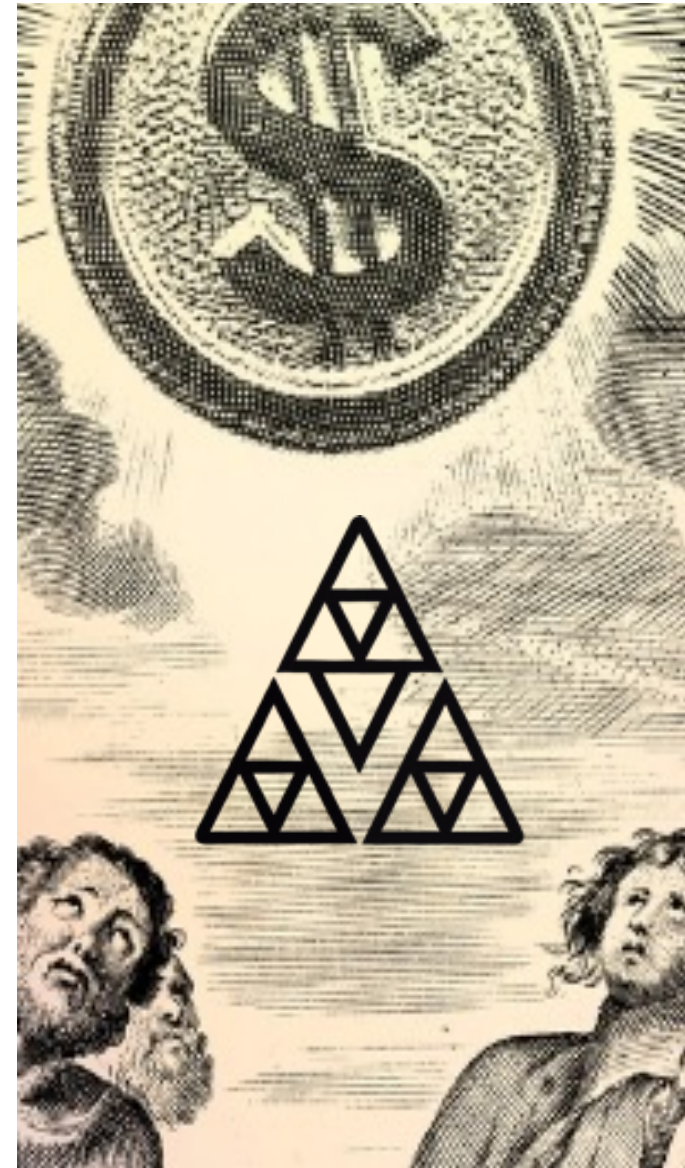
GIVING AT VINTAGE CHURCH

- Avg. # of givers ea/mo = 40 (31-47)



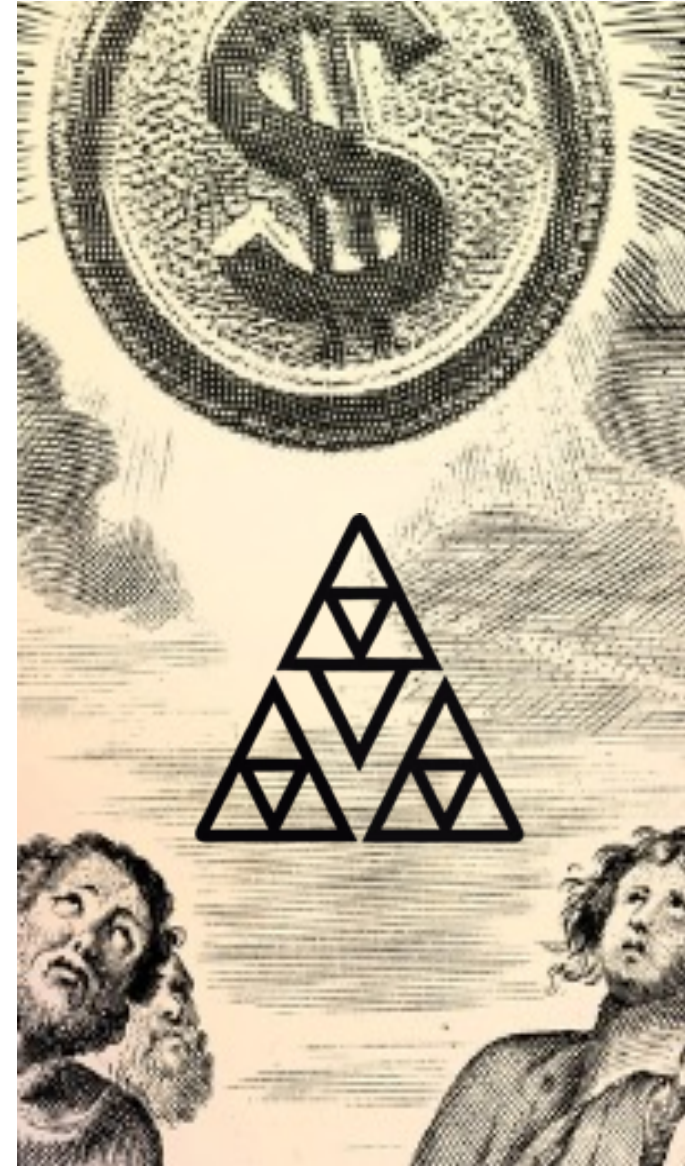
GIVING AT VINTAGE CHURCH

- Avg. # of givers ea/mo = 40 (31-47)
- Assume avg. salary of \$50k/yr Low
- Assume 10% giving = \$5k/yr High



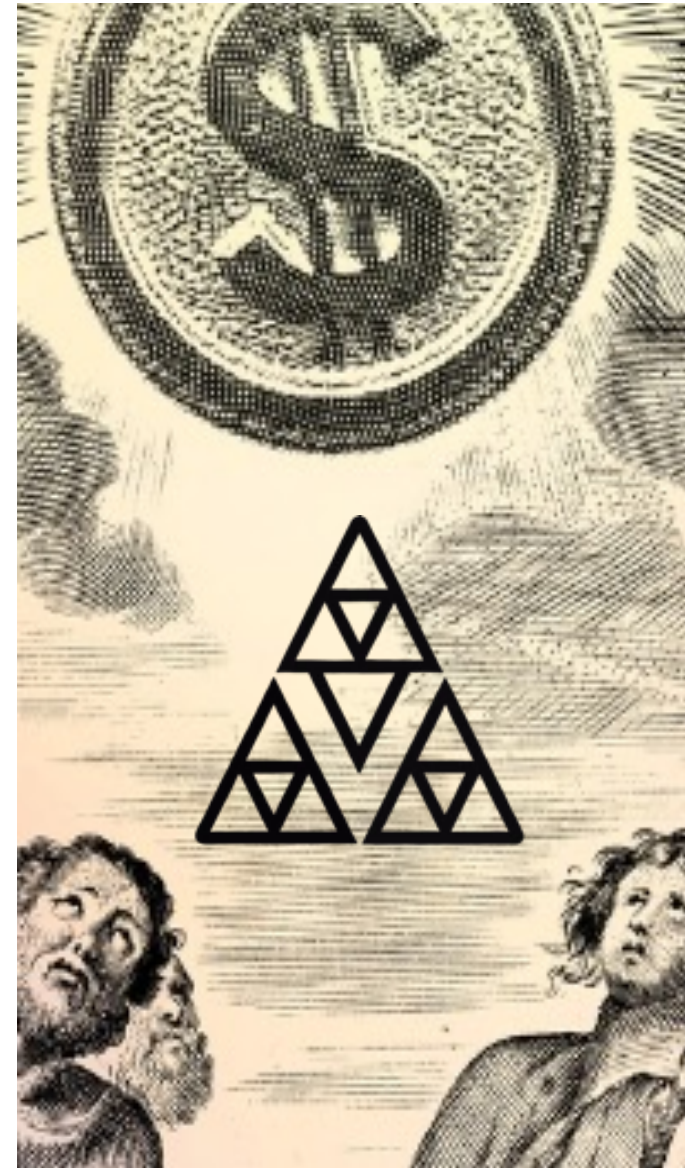
GIVING AT VINTAGE CHURCH

- Avg. # of givers ea/mo = 40 (31-47)
- Assume avg. salary of \$50k/yr Low
- Assume 10% giving = \$5k/yr High
- 40 givers x \$5k/yr = \$200k budget



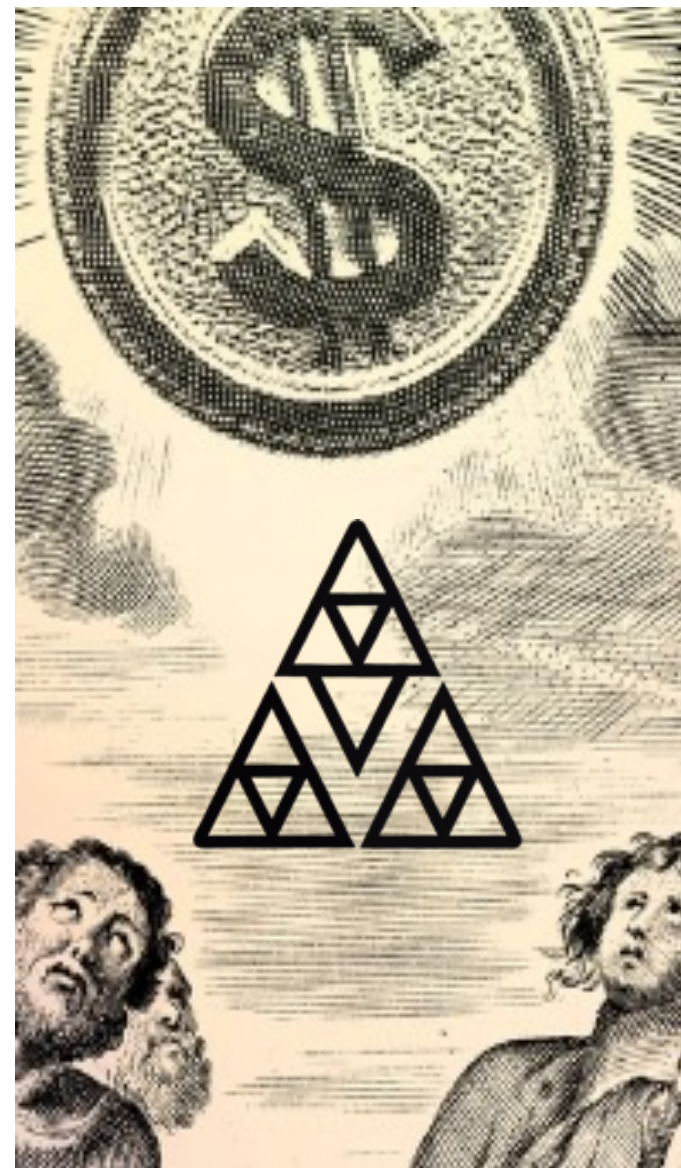
GIVING AT VINTAGE CHURCH

- Avg. # of givers ea/mo = 40 (31-47)
- Assume avg. salary of \$50k/yr Low
- Assume 10% giving = \$5k/yr High
- 40 givers x \$5k/yr = \$200k budget
- Bad news: Not many people give to Vintage, and likely not 10%



GIVING AT VINTAGE CHURCH

- Avg. # of givers ea/mo = 40 (31-47)
- Assume avg. salary of \$50k/yr Low
- Assume 10% giving = \$5k/yr High
- 40 givers x \$5k/yr = \$200k budget
- Bad news: Not many people give to Vintage, and likely not 10%
- Good news: lots of room to grow!



IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES

- Avg. # of givers ea/mo = **50 or 60**
- Assume avg. salary of \$50k/yr *Low*
- Assume 10% giving = \$5k/yr *High*
- Givers x \$5k/yr = **\$250k or \$300k**

**Just under current
budget needs**

**Well over current
budget needs**



YEAR END GIVING

If we are to meet our '25-'26 budget, based on current and past giving trends...



WE WILL NEED \$70,000 GIVING IN DECEMBER
\$9k more than '24 giving, but \$4k less than '23!

*Please be praying about what you can give,
and we'll trust God's provision/wisdom together*

GOOD QUESTIONS TO ASK

- How much money is enough for me and my family to live on?
- What would it look like to give as much of the rest away as possible?
- How much of that giving could/should go to Vintage?

The *Henri J. M. Nouwen*
Spirituality
Series™

A Spirituality of Fundraising

Henri J. M. Nouwen



John S. Mogabgab, *Series Editor*

GOOD QUESTIONS TO ASK

- Why don't I give more, or more often than I do? Because...
 - I really don't think I can?
 - I'm genuinely afraid to?
 - I've never thought about it?
 - End-of-year really does work best for me/us?
 - I don't think my relatively small gift will count?

The *Henri J. M. Nouwen*
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Henri J. M. Nouwen



John S. Mogabgab, Series Editor

Now about the collection for the Lord's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income...

HOLY
BIBLE

1 COR

16:1-2a

(As Jesus watched), A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.

HOLY
BIBLE

MARK
12:42-44

*From everyone to whom much
has been given, much will be required;
and from one to whom much has been
entrusted, even more will be demanded.*

HOLY
BIBLE

LUKE
12:48

WEBSITES TO VISIT

- *Whatdoesabilliondollarslooklike.
website*
- *Eattherichtextformat.github*
- *Givingwhatwecan.org*



How Rich Am I?

Find out how rich you are compared to the rest of the world



God of life, we praise you for your abiding presence
from generation to generation, blessing your people,
strengthening us to lives of service;
grant that, as we serve you now on earth,
we may one day rejoice with all of creation
in your kingdom of light and peace,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

A decorative banner at the bottom of the slide. It features a dark background with a Venn diagram of three overlapping circles in red, green, and blue. To the right of the circles is a stylized, textured shape resembling a pine cone or a fan. The entire banner is set against a light gray background.