

**Matt Singleton**  
**Moments for Stewardship**  
**November 2, 2014**

I'm Matt Singleton. I've been coming to this church with my family since I was four years old upon moving to Chapel Hill from Texas. When I was asked to speak on the matter of stewardship I'll admit, I was completely dumbfounded as to what I should say. As y'all may have realized, I'm a teenager, so I haven't thought much about stewardship. I knew my family made a pledge every year, but like many of you, I only associated stewardship with sermons I've heard about church budgets and building programs. A few weeks ago, [Mr. Dunham told the funny story](#) about the chicken and the pig and their relationship to breakfast. Like the pig, bacon always gets my attention. So I began to think about the relationship between stewardship, commitment, and my faith journey.

My faith journey is shaped by what I do around here. And what I do seems pretty simple: [Choir](#) and [PYC](#). My mom says I should also mention Sunday morning worship and church school. Clearly, your sharing of your money helps fund these programs, and I'd kind of taken that for granted up until now. I came to realize when thinking about these programs just how much they mean to me. I voluntarily spend at least 5 hours at this church every Sunday. Many of the young people sitting around you would echo that statement and I'm grateful to call them my friends.

Choir and PYC both serve similar roles in my life. They're both places I can come and just forget about all the pressures of the everyday life of a teenager living in a college town.

Choir is a program open to anyone, and that's one of the reasons I love it. I'm not the most musically talented person but I can still sing with the choir and have a blast singing for God in this place or worshipping at Montreat.

Likewise, PYC is a place where everyone has a voice. A lot of youth out there feel as though no one is listening to them because they might not have achieved a lot or they're not important. Let me tell you, that was me in sixth grade. My first night at PYC I sat with one of my friends and watched the high schoolers in adoration thinking that I'll never be as cool as them. Maybe I was right... But over the years, PYC has taught me that I do have a voice and that God cares about my voice just as much as the voices of more important people.

That's why I'm here this morning, to lend my voice in reminding you that when children are baptized here y'all promise to encourage them to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of his church by your words and your deeds. I am certain that your stewardship in this church does make a difference. By sharing God's abundance, you spread His grace and glory by showing me and my friends the way to know and follow Christ.

And just maybe, your deeds can help us be like the pig in the story and help us see the difference between sacrifice and total commitment.