



**STRIVING SIDE BY SIDE FOR  
THE FAITH OF THE GOSPEL**

PHILIPPIANS 1:27

**ONE SPIRIT | ONE MIND | ONE VISION**



## FOUNDATIONAL CORE VALUES OF THE GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL

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1. An uncompromised belief that the Bible is the inspired, infallible, and inerrant Word of God.
  
2. An intentional focus on the objective of winning others to the Lord Jesus Christ, through:
  - a. the association of Christian business and professional men for service;*
  - b. personal testimony and personal work by individual Gideons;*
  - c. placing the Bible—God’s Holy Word—or portions thereof, in hotels, hospitals, schools, institutions, and also through distribution of same for personal use.*
  
3. A membership consisting of business and professional men, except clergymen, who:
  - Believe in the Bible as the inspired (i.e., infallible and inerrant) Word of God*
  - Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the eternal Son of God*
  - Have received Him as their personal Savior*
  - Endeavor to follow Him in their daily lives*
  - Believe in the endless lake of fire for the unsaved*
  - Accept the Biblical standard of marriage being between one man and one woman*
  - Are members in good standing of an evangelical or protestant church, congregation, or assembly*
  - Participate in the activities of a camp*

4. An integral part of the Association known as the Auxiliary, which is comprised of the member wives of Gideons who meet the same spiritual qualifications. The purpose of the Auxiliary is to assist the Gideons in their single objective through prayer, personal testimony, personal work, association for service, and placing and distributing the Bible—God’s Holy Word—or portions thereof in approved venues.

5. An ongoing emphasis on the importance of fulfilling the seven spiritual objectives: Men of the Book, Faith, Prayer, Separated Walk, Compassionate Heart, Men who Witness and Give.

6. Funding for the mission of the Association is secured through personal contributions and bequests, church offerings, and through the GideonCard Bible Program.

7. Recognition of an intentional relationship with evangelical and Protestant churches as a prayer base, a source of members, and financial support.

8. A simple, disciplined, well-defined ministry that is carried out exclusively by the membership of the Association under the authority and direction of the International Cabinet.

# VISION STATEMENT

The Gideons International, begun in 1899, has become the most effective, most comprehensive, and most integrated Bible distribution network the world has ever known. Over two billion Scriptures have been placed and distributed through the partnership between The Gideons International and churches across the globe. There are approximately 12,000 missionary touchpoints (camps) and 270,000 missionaries (Gideons and Auxiliary), all members of local churches, in some 200 countries, territories, and possessions, positioned to reach the majority of the world's seven billion people. God has blessed this ministry in its first 120 years.

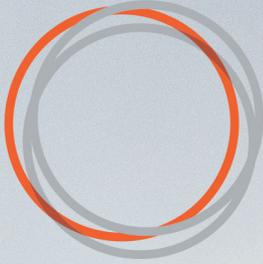
Yet, the history of The Gideons International reveals that in our formative years, this ministry was not about Scripture distribution. Its primary focus was on who a man was before God and the strength and power of his testimony for Christ. Why were we formed as a ministry? We were formed to help Christian business and professional men maintain a strong testimony for Christ.

Today, we face new challenges. Considering the rapid moral decline of post-Christian societies of the world, there is an even greater need for a spiritual ministry to help Christian business and professional men strengthen our testimonies for Christ and fulfill our God-given responsibilities as spiritual leaders in our homes, churches, and workplaces. As Godly husbands, fathers, church leaders, and business and professional men, our lives should be powerfully convincing and convicting to the world around us.

To strengthen our ministry and accomplish our mission in the years to come, members of The Gideons International will strive side by side for the faith of the Gospel.

We will strive side by side as Christian business and professional men, as iron sharpens iron—molding, shaping, and sharpening our personal testimonies for Christ while trusting God for open doors to place and distribute God’s Word across a morally declining world. We will strive side by side with the Auxiliary to build the kingdom of God as we uphold the Biblical institution of marriage. And, we will strive side by side with Protestant, evangelical churches and assemblies, as partners in the Great Commission, to win others to Christ in our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and in the uttermost parts of the earth.

We will ask God’s continuing blessing and favor as we strive side by side for the faith of the Gospel to accomplish our objective to win others to the Lord Jesus Christ through a) the association of Christian business and professional men for service, b) personal testimony and personal work by individual Gideons, and c) placing the Bible—God’s Holy Word—or portions thereof, in hotels, hospitals, schools, institutions, and also through distribution of same for personal use.



# ASSOCIATION FOR SERVICE



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## The Association of Christian Business and Professional Men for Service

The Constitution of The Gideons International states the object of The Gideons is to win others to the Lord Jesus Christ, through a) the association of Christian business and professional men for service.

In the early years of The Gideons International, business and professional men came with skills acquired and practiced in the business world that easily translated into planning, administering, and executing the ministry of The Gideons International. Business and professions have changed over the last 120 years, but the skills needed to operate The Gideons International have not. It is still necessary for business and professional men to plan, administer, and execute the ministry of The Gideons International. Business skills like communication, team building, fund raising, public relations with like-minded business people and professionals (pastors, hotel managers, hospital administrators, school principals, jail and prison officials), public speaking, inventory management, and financial management are still essential to operate The Gideons International at the local, state, national, and international levels.

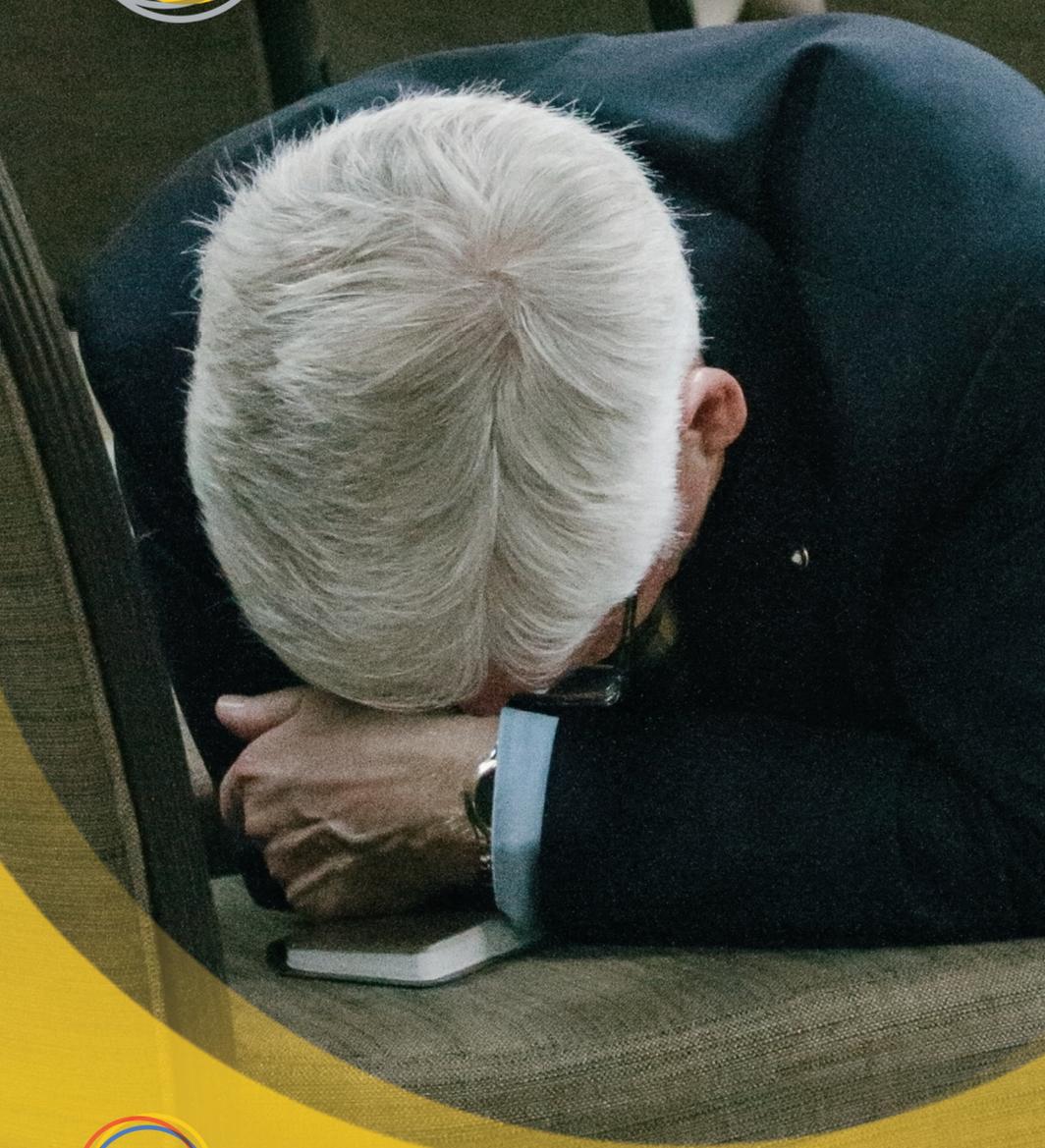
Christian business and professional men still face the same challenges to our testimonies for Christ that business and professional men faced 120 years ago: sexual immorality, alcohol abuse, and gambling. More temptations face us today, such as easy access to pornography, unethical business practices, and anti-Christian cultural pressure.

The association of men for service provides opportunities for business and professional men to engage in one another's lives, conversations to deal with the temptations of today, and a platform for transparency and accountability among like-minded men. In these activities, special opportunities exist for men to experience God and grow in faith while being involved in the work of our ministry.

Also, the association together for service includes opportunities to learn and apply business skills required to plan, administer, and execute our ministry. Effective application of basic business skills is critical to the success of a ministry that operates in some 200 countries, territories and possessions, through over 270,000 members (Gideons and Auxiliary), and nearly 12,000 local camps. Improving our ability to associate together for service as Christian business and professional men charged to operate this ministry is vital to our future success.



# PERSONAL TESTIMONY & PERSONAL WORK



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## Personal Testimony and Personal Work by Individual Gideons

The Constitution of The Gideons International states the object of The Gideons is to win others to the Lord Jesus Christ, through b) personal testimony and personal work by individual Gideons. Personal testimony derives from a man's relationship with Christ, and personal work involves what a man does in bringing others to Christ as a result of that relationship. The ministry's focus from its earliest days was to help Christian businessmen maintain a strong personal testimony for Christ. The temptations and spiritual challenges regularly faced by a business and professional man puts his testimony to the test.

### Personal Testimony

The Gideons International is intentional in its efforts to assist a Christian business or professional man in maintaining a strong personal testimony for Christ. These intentional efforts include practical instruction in spiritual disciplines and activities for spiritual growth, such as daily Bible reading and prayer, Scripture memorization, and weekly prayer meetings. These spiritual disciplines and activities help strengthen a man's Spiritual character, competency, and courage, thereby enabling him to live a Christ-centered life.

## Personal Work

The consistency and effectiveness of a man's personal testimony is foundational to his personal work in bringing others to Christ. The Gideons International equips and encourages men to bring others to Christ through practical instruction in personal witnessing. Instruction in personal witnessing prepares men to use Personal Workers Testaments and encourages men to trust God for, and recognize, personal witnessing opportunities. The Gideons International also equips and encourages men through practical instruction to be strong and courageous spiritual leaders in our homes, churches, and in this ministry.

The expectation is that a man who joins The Gideons International will experience spiritual growth and equipping that moves him toward a lifestyle of personal work to bring others to Christ. Winning others for Christ through personal work springs from a man's spiritual growth and character, his reliance on the truth and power of the Word of God, his compassion for lost people, and his faith that God will use him to help bring others to Christ.



# DISTRIBUTION OF SCRIPTURE



## Placing the Bible—God’s Holy Word—or Portions Thereof, in Hotels, Hospitals, Schools, Institutions, and Also Through Distribution of Same for Personal Use

The Constitution of the Gideons International states the object of The Gideons is to win others to the Lord Jesus Christ, through (c) placing the Bible—God’s Holy Word—or portions thereof, in hotels, hospitals, schools, institutions, and also through distribution of same for personal use. Though not a part of the ministry in the first nine years, placing and distributing God’s Holy Word has been a key soul winning initiative of the ministry since 1908. God has blessed placing and distributing His Holy Word as an extension of associating together for service and our personal testimony and personal work. Over two billion Scriptures have gone forth among the nations with testimony after testimony showing that God reaches people through His Word placed in the traffic lanes of life.

Placing and distributing God’s Word, to meet our objective of winning others to Christ, includes implementation of policies and procedures needed to be efficient and successful. Such policies and procedures are carried out through programs and associated activities approved by the International Cabinet. Though the work of placing and distributing God’s Word is done at the camp level, the administration of the ministry is conducted through an organizational structure that encompasses international, state, regional, area, and camp management levels. Training members at all levels of

the organizational structure creates a culture of excellence and proper stewardship of resources God provides this ministry.

## EPILOGUE

God gives us special opportunities to strive side by side for the faith of the Gospel with Christian business and professional men, the Auxiliary, and evangelical churches from across the world. The Gideons International stands firm on the Word of God through a ministry structure that upholds two Biblical institutions: the institution of marriage and the institution of the Church. Praise God for a unique, counter-cultural place of service, where we can engage the enemy of this world in the battle for the souls of men, women, boys and girls, striving side by side for the faith of the Gospel, building His kingdom here on earth, and bringing glory and honor to our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.



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