

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO JOIN THE GIDEONS?

Generally, Christian businessmen and professional men age 21 and older, who adhere to the basic spiritual beliefs held by Gideons, are eligible to join The Gideons International. If you want to make sure you're qualified, please ask the man who sent you the invitation to this website. If you are married, and your wife also supports these same spiritual beliefs held by the Gideon ministry, she is eligible to join The Auxiliary of The Gideons International.

WHAT DO THE GIDEONS BELIEVE?

The Gideons International is a diverse association in that our members come from many Christian denominations, and there may be some differences in how we practice our faith. However, all members hold certain core beliefs:

- The Bible is the inspired, infallible, inerrant Word of God
- The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God
- There is an endless lake of fire for the unsaved (Rev. 20:10, 14-15)

Members must also:

- Have received Jesus as their personal Savior
- Endeavor to follow Him in their daily lives
- Be members in good standing of a protestant or evangelical church, congregation or assembly

IS THE GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL A DENOMINATION OR A CHURCH?

No. The Gideons International is an association that works with the protestant/evangelical church. Our members come from many denominations, live all over the world and share a desire to see the lost come to Christ.

For this reason, we do not distribute Scriptures to churches or other organizations. Our unique method is to distribute Bibles or New Testaments through designated traffic lanes of life, thus efficiently reaching a large number of people with as little duplication as possible. Approved points of distribution include hotels and motels, prisons and jails, schools and colleges, medical offices, nursing and convalescent homes, police and fire personnel, and the military.

DOES ANYONE EVER READ THE BIBLE IN THEIR HOTEL ROOM?

Yes! Each Bible placed in a hotel room has the potential to reach up to 2,300 people in its estimated 6-year life span in a hotel room. Research tells us that 25% of travelers read the Bibles in their hotel rooms.

DOES EVERY GIDEON NEED TO SPEAK IN CHURCHES?

No. Although this is a service organization and we want members to work with us to help spread the Word of God, a man may be a Gideon without ever speaking in a church.

Church presentations are only one aspect of what we do. Very few Gideons speak in churches. Those who do become church speakers volunteer for the task and go through appropriate training.

There are many ways to spread the Word. We encourage new members to explore the many different ways they can get involved and support the ministry.

DOES GIDEON MEMBERSHIP FIT INTO EVERYDAY LIFE?

Thousands of successful men and their wives with busy careers and active families are members. They find that the Gideon ministry fits into their everyday lives.

For example, giving just 30 minutes a year at a Scripture distribution can change someone's eternal destiny (or even that of many people)! Sharing a personal Testament with someone you know or have just met might take only five minutes, but what a difference it could make for eternity!

Our biggest need is for prayer. We provide detailed prayer calendars for members to use on their own. Our local Gideons hold weekly prayer meetings which they attend as their schedule permits. The Auxiliary also meets regularly for prayer.

If you have additional questions, be sure to ask the Gideon who invited you to this website! He'd be happy to give you more information about The Gideons.