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ANNUAL REPORT

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ONE SPIRIT, ONE MIND, ONE VISION—

STRIVING SIDE BY SIDE FOR THE FAITH OF THE GOSPEL.

"One Vision" reminds us of our single objective to win others for the Lord Jesus Christ and how we accomplish that through our three mission strategies: associating together for service; personal testimony and personal work; and the placement and distribution of God's Holy Word, or portions thereof. Lastly, it reminds us of the shared values that have always shaped the Christian business and professional men who have served in our Association.



United in Winning Others for Christ

In the pages of this Annual Report, you'll see how passionate our members are about reaching the lost for Christ.

You'll meet Robert Gerred (page 34) a second-generation Gideon for whom personal witnessing is a daily priority. Inspired by his dad and other Gideons who influenced him as a child, Robert is making an impact in his community as he shares Personal Workers Testaments and a word of witness with those he encounters throughout his day.

You'll also read about Victor, a Gideon in Ukraine (page 45). Even the dreadful noises of explosions and crumbling buildings could not drown out the voice of the Lord as He spoke to Victor. At age 51, Victor felt the Lord's calling to go to the war zone and share God's Word. It would cost him his life but as you'll see, even in death, his testimony continues to make an impact.

You'll also see how lives are being changed after receiving a copy of God's Word from The Gideons. For example, a young Buddhist boy received a Testament during a school distribution by Gideons, and then again as a young man in the military (page 22). Today, he is a pastor in the Republic of Korea.

Whether you are a member, pastor, donor, Friend of The Gideons, or someone whose life was touched by a copy of God's Word received from The Gideons, we hope you find inspiration in these pages as you read how the Lord has blessed the ministry of this Association over the past year. Perhaps you'll sense Him inviting you to a new spiritual adventure, as well.





Hindu at Takeoff, Born-Again Believer by Landing

boarded my flight in Dallas and sitting in the next seat was a young man whose attention was focused on his phone. As we readied for takeoff, I offered him a Personal Workers Testament and he accepted it. His name was Shree. I asked if he had any spiritual beliefs. He said he was Hindu. I told him, "As a young man, I received Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. It was my most important decision ever."

A couple of hours later, our flight began the descent into Mexico City. The thought of this young man's eternity without Christ weighed heavily on me. He needed to hear the Gospel.

I asked him to open the Testament and pointed out the Helps in the front. Next, I asked him to read the

plan of salvation pages. The Lord began to minister to his heart. I asked Shree if he understood what he was reading. "Yes," he replied. "Would you like to receive a new life in Christ?" I asked. He immediately exclaimed, "Yes!"

I shared how he now had the Creator of the Universe living in his heart and that by reading the Scriptures daily he would have the tools to live a God-honoring life. I encouraged him to get involved in a Bible-believing church where he could grow in Christ. What an honor to be a Gideon and invite others to join the family of God!

Mark Stewart

Lubbock West Camp (Texas)



Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

Philippians 2:14-16

Dear christian friend,

As I finish my first year as International President, I reflect on many challenges our world has faced in recent years: a global pandemic; wars in Europe, Africa, and other parts of the world; racial and social unrest. We have seen the world being polarized politically; and we've witnessed wide acceptance of additional genders. That sounds a lot like a crooked and twisted generation (Philippians 2:15).

In a world that has changed so much, I am thankful to serve a Lord who does not change. As we observe many alternative lifestyles and points of view, we also find a strong determination by each one being willing to fight for what they believe to be right. Praise God, we hold the truth and, praise God, we know the unchanging Word of God.

I believe God has called us to be lights in the world, holding fast to the Word

of life. He has called us to make sure others have an opportunity to know Him regardless of their denomination, race, gender, or their political party. One Vision calls us to strive side by side for the faith of the Gospel.

I am thankful God has placed me in a ministry with men and women who push me to be better, to do the right thing, and who expect the right thing. I believe there are others who are looking for this same support and accountability.

Over the next year, you will see us focus on the activity we are most known for—Scripture distributions. Through church services, we want to give potential members the opportunity to join the ministry and be a part of those distributions. We believe by simply doing what God has called us to do, people will be drawn to what He is doing through The Gideons International.

If someone is willing to make a stand in this world as a true Bible-believing Christian and join a ministry that holds to the Word of God, they are most likely warriors. These will be the people who have the character we are looking for in this Association. These will not be Gideons and Auxiliary in name only, but rather doers, workers, and warriors.

Our best days are ahead of us. I believe God still has great things He wants to accomplish through this Association. This world with all its problems will pass away. At the end, it's either going to get a whole lot better or a whole lot worse depending on where you have put your faith. Eternity is what we have been called to focus on. God has called you and me to give people an opportunity to know what we know, and to know Who we know.

May God be honored in all that we do!



Kevin BealInternational President
The Gideons International



OUR HERITAGE

He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

New Testament

Made for Whatever Life Throws at It

You may have heard or read testimonies like that of the soldier from North Dakota who discovered a 31-caliber bullet lodged in his pocket Service Testament after his infantry unit came under enemy fire in Germany during World War II. Or testimonies like that of Dean Mattern who begins by saying, "I was smoking Leviticus." He used pages torn out of a Scripture received from The Gideons to roll up handmade cigarettes inside his jail cell. Eventually, he began reading the pages and discovered that Jesus died for his sins. He committed his life to the Lord and later became a pastor.

Of course, the raw material selections for Scriptures from The Gideons aren't based on their potential to stop bullets or be lit on fire. They are chosen for characteristics that include durability, readability, and convenience. All are key factors as our members provide tens of millions of Testaments (in addition to full-size Bibles) each year without charge—we want those who receive these Scriptures to be able to read them daily for years and years.

What are some of the physical attributes that make holding and reading our Testaments a unique experience? Sturdy, textured, covers with rounded edges that bend and hug around the pages to protect and preserve the Testament through years of wear. The small size fits perfectly in the hands of the millions of children who receive a Testament each year. The size is also convenient for our members who keep Testaments tucked inside their pockets for those personal witnessing moments that can occur at any time. Other features include specific colors and designs based on where the Scriptures will be distributed; reinforced bindings; and pages that are strategically thin without compromising

brightness, opacity, or strength. Through decades of innovations to the paper, ink, string, glue, and the manufacturing process itself, our Testaments remain instantly distinguishable in their look and feel.

Our Testaments are printed in over 100 languages. Verifying each version is an accurate translation of God's Word is a painstaking process that requires the collaboration of Bible scholars, Bible societies, and other subject matter experts throughout the world. After being subjected to intensive reviews, all translations considered for printing are presented to our International Executive Committee and then to the International Cabinet for final approval before going to press.

These meticulous details would all be meaningless if it weren't for the most important feature—the actual printed text itself—the Word of God. Testimony after testimony reveals that's what changes lives. We praise God for everyone, including you, who helps us get God's Word into the hands of those in search of hope.



1898

John Nicholson & Samuel Hill pray about the need for Christian businessmen to fellowship together in strengthening their faith and sharing their witness while traveling.



1899

Led by the Holy Spirit, Nicholson, Hill, & W.J. Knights choose a name for their new association: The Gideons.

1908

Ministerial union pastors agree to support Gideons putting God's Word in hotels.

1971

Gideons place their



1972

Gideons initiate personal distribution of Testaments at colleges.

1978

In just 7+ years, Gideons place another 100 million Scriptures (200 million total).

1989

Yugoslavia are opened to Gideon ministry.

Gideons begin placing Bibles in hospitals.

Gideons begin giving Testaments to 5th-12th grade school students...

Wives of Gideons (The Auxiliary) first share Bibles at women's homes, hospitals, and Y.W.C.A.'s.

Just prior to WWII, Gideons offer Testaments to USA military, while Auxiliary hand out Testaments to service nurses.



1968

Apollo 8 astronauts circle the moon with Gideon Service Testaments aboard.

Poland, Hungary, and

2001

After 90+ years of sharing the Word, the 1 billionth Gideon Scripture is distributed.





2015

In less than 15 more years, the **second billionth**Gideon Scripture is shared.
The new Gideon Bible App provides God's Word in over 1,300 languages.



2017

Gideons and Auxiliary hand out the **100 millionth** Personal Workers Testament. These Scriptures are purchased by our members for use in sharing their own faith.

2018

Gideons deliver the first Tatar Scriptures to Russia. Over 5 million Russians speak Tatar. Nearly 120,000 Testaments are provided to earthquake victims in Indonesia and Haiti.

2020

Our Gideon history is preserved through the publication of Witness to History. (Book available at WitnessToHistory.org.)

More than 4,500 Scriptures are provided to fill requests from New York hospitals and facilities in response to COVID-19.

Due to COVID-19, the 2020 Gideons

International Convention is held as a virtual event with an estimated 50,000+ members participating online.



2021

Gideons hold first virtual new member events.

The Bru language Scripture is approved as the 109th translation available through The Gideons.





2022

2022 Scripture Distribution Enhancements are approved for Vacation Bible Schools and other authorized venues.

The **2.5 billionth** Gideon Scripture is shared.

The 50 millionth Life Book is shared.



MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.

Psalm 40:5

This Year's Major Distribution Events

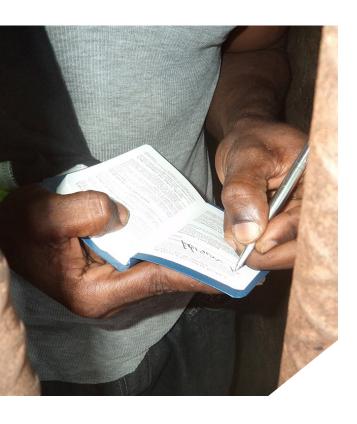
Much of the world has reopened following two years of a shutdown due to pandemic restrictions, and our International Scripture Blitzes have resumed. We praise the Lord that Gideons and Auxiliary placed and distributed over 1.4 million Scriptures through these outreach events.

International Scripture Blitzes

June 2022—May 2023

Country	Scriptures Distributed
Indonesia	152,993
Malaysia	39,792
Hungary	18,600
Papua New Guinea	41,304

Thailand	83,719
Mexico	603,476
Nicaragua	92,729
Colombia	205,982
Poland	16,637
Kenya	151,823
Malaysia	50,216



From Prison Chains to Freedom in Christ

grew up in Cameroon. As a young boy, I thought that Jesus was just someone God had made to be an example of how we are supposed to live. My whole worldview was shaped by African traditional religion, and I went to witchdoctors when I had challenges. Because I was continually getting into trouble, it became very difficult for my parents to leave me in school. By age 11, I had to leave town.

By age 13, I was on my own in another city—going to school, making my own decisions, coming home when I wanted, and hanging out with people I wanted to hang out with. My choices led me from one troubling situation to the next. Eventually, I ended up in prison where I was chained to another prisoner. When my parents came to visit me, they both began to cry. My heart was broken because I realized I was causing a lot of pain. I wanted to change, but I didn't know how.

There was another prisoner in the room who had killed a woman. He was sitting in his bed toward the middle of the room, and he

was reading a Bible from The Gideons. I was shocked and thought to myself: I have no hope for my own life, but this guy killed someone. Why is he even touching God's Book?

At some point during the night, I asked him, "Please, would you give me your Bible? I'd like to read it, too." He walked over and handed me that Bible. I started to read and began to cry. I told God, "If You take me out of this place, I want to live my life for You."

By morning, I'd forgotten about my prayer. But later that day, some prison workers and a warden opened the prison door and called my name. "Who is Efi? Can you come?" They took off the chains from my hands and took me to the office and signed papers to release me. I thought it was a mistake. I walked away from that prison ready to run away in case somebody told me to come back. The distance kept growing and growing—it was real. I knew it was God!

Later that night, I went to a field. I knelt down and told God, "Thank You. I know it's You. You took me out of that place, and I want to live my life for You. I want to follow You."

I am so grateful for all Gideons and Auxiliary who worked collectively to place Bibles in prisons. Thank you for your dedicated and passionate service for His Kingdom.

Note from a Life Impacted by a Testament

Thank You for Reaching School Kids (Arkansas)

Edited by The Gideons International

Dear Gideons,

I recently saw a news article mentioning parents being upset about your organization distributing Testaments near a local high school. I received a Testament from The Gideons when I was in junior high, and I want you to know it was so refreshing. I felt like the only Christian when I was at school. To start my day off at school receiving a Testament I could keep in my locker was a blessing. I pray God will bless your efforts and that lives will be touched because of you. If just one soul is saved, it's worth it. I believe the Word of God is what everyone, especially kids, need in this day and age.

God bless you all!

Brittany

A Hotel Bible Back in Every Room

Over the years, we've received many testimonies of people who checked into a hotel with plans to end their lives, but instead surrendered their lives to Christ after an encounter with a Hotel Bible placed by The Gideons. At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, an upscale hotel in Portland, Maine, requested that the Gideon-placed Hotel Bibles be removed from the guest rooms in light

of public health concerns. With the pandemic restrictions ending, Gideons returned in March of 2023 and spoke with the hotel's general manager. He told them, "Since January 1, we've experienced three suicides in this hotel. Please,

"Since January 1, we've experienced three suicides in this hotel. Please, we need to get a Hotel Bible back into every guest room."

we need to get a Hotel Bible back into every guest room." Immediately, Gideons placed copies of God's Word in each guest room. We praise God for every life that will be changed after an encounter with the Gospel through one of these Hotel Bibles.



Our vision statement *One Spirit, One Mind, One Vision—Striving Side by Side for the Faith of the Gospel,* inspired by Philippians 1:27, continues to encourage us to challenge Christian business and professional men and their wives to increase their impact in winning others for the Lord Jesus Christ.

People need the Lord. I thank God for Gideons and Auxiliary around the world who stand ready to share the Gospel!

This past year, we were nearly able to reverse a long-standing membership decline. At the close of our fiscal year, worldwide Gideon membership was 150,692, a decrease of just 0.3%. Total membership, including Auxiliary, grew by one-half percent, measured at 244,105 Gideons and Auxiliary. Praise God!

Growth occurred in four of our National Associations, with the Republic of Korea, the Republic of China (Taiwan), India, and The Philippines each driving increases in Gideon membership. Seven of our eleven international regions increased membership for Gideons, resulting in the third straight year of growth in Gideons in International Countries. Regions achieving net membership growth included the

following: Africa North/Middle East; Africa South; Africa West; Europe East; Latin America North/Caribbean; Latin America Central; and Latin America South. Thanks be to God for His blessings!

International Headquarters continues to honor the Lord in serving and equipping our members. This past year the Membership Services team received 38,856 inbound phone calls and conducted 7,853 outbound calls. An additional 3,317 calls were processed during the Membership Renewal season. Nearly all these inbound calls are members seeking assistance, and many of the outbound calls are to pastors or church leaders, as we seek information on membership applicants.

The team received 3,179 USA membership applications, which they prepared for review by the Membership Committee. An additional 10,865 membership applications were received and processed for International Countries.

Also, this past year, several initiatives and critical capabilities were delivered or improved by International Headquarters in support of the International Cabinet, including:

An evaluation of global printers to modernize our supply chain for Scriptures was completed. While the implementation resulted in some increased costs in the USA, the new supply chain model provides additional flexibility and reduced costs in many of our International Countries.

The average cycle time for USA membership applications was reduced from more than 30 days to process 90% of the applications to less than 14 days.

The Gideons International also celebrated the shipment of the 2.5 billionth Scripture since we began distributing Scriptures in 1908. Praise God for allowing us to achieve this milestone.

The Lord continues to do amazing things through The Gideons International. My prayer for this year is that as we strive side by side for the faith of the Gospel, we may be found "Holding Fast to the Word of Life." (Philippians 2:16)



Daniel J. HeighwayExecutive Director
The Gideons International





STRIVING SIDE BY SIDE WITH THE CHURCH

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

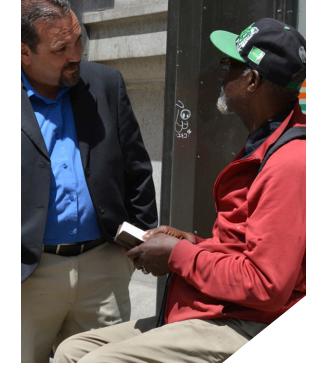
Ephesians 4:11-12



Gideons Continue Encouraging Churches in Personal Witnessing

onversations—A Simple Approach to Sharing the Gospel continues to expand as Gideons encourage others in personal witnessing. Many who have attended a Conversations session are now winning others for Christ. One Gideon who participated in a session stepped out of the room at the venue and led a caterer to receive Christ using the Conversations approach.

In Fiji, three pastors attended a session one Sunday afternoon. Afterward, they expressed to the Gideon leaders how they thought this program would



revolutionize evangelism for their churches. And in Oregon, a lay elder became a Gideon after interacting with the team of Gideons leading the *Conversations* session at his church.

We praise God for the fruit we are seeing from these sessions throughout the world, and we thank churches for their support and participation as we encourage others to share Jesus.







The Journey from Gideon to Pastor

ose Fuertes was born in
Panama, to parents who loved
and served the Lord with great
joy. His dad's godly influence steered the
young boy to accept Jesus as his own
Lord and Savior.

As a teen, Jose began leading and teaching children at church. His faith and desire to reach others for Jesus continued to grow. During college, he organized a group whose sole purpose was to share the Gospel. That college ministry still exists.

He met a young lady named Laila at a church event; she joined the university ministry at his invitation. They soon became a couple. Today, Jose and Laila have been married for nearly 40 years. The Lord has blessed them with three daughters.

Working, raising kids, and serving the Lord, Jose and Laila felt blessed. His pastor knew Jose was passionate about reaching others with the Gospel and introduced him to the ministry of The Gideons. Jose loved the ministry's single objective of winning others for Jesus and joined.

He vividly remembers participating in Scripture distributions at schools. "I recall many teachers asking us to pray for them and inviting us to share the Gospel. I also had the joy of seeing several children come to know the Lord."

Jose often felt another calling—to serve the Lord as a pastor. One day, a pastor told him, "I feel the Lord has called you four times to pastor." The following month, his own pastor asked him to become an associate pastor at his church. He accepted.

In 2017, Jose surrendered to the call to serve full time as a pastor. While ministry was going well, the distance between his church and his home made it challenging for Jose to point others in his own community to a local church. That's when the couple began a small group home Bible study, inviting those they witnessed to

in their community to join them. Their house transformed from a small group to a church.

With his pastor's blessing and the backing of his denomination, they began Iglesia Casa de Fe (House of Faith) in 2018—a church for a community where no evangelical churches existed at the time. Today, the congregation has 40 people and recently moved into a new meeting space. They are passionate about sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ and helping those in need.

His church's doors are always open for The Gideons. He invites Gideons to frequently come share with his flock what God is doing in the Association. All three of his sons-in-law are Gideons, and his daughters are all active in the Auxiliary. He readily recommends Christian businessmen and professionals in his congregation join The Gideons, knowing first-hand the spiritual impact it can have.

From his time as a Gideon to his current calling to lead Iglesia Casa de Fe, Jose's mission is the same...to share Jesus with as many people as he can for the glory of God.

How would Jose encourage a Gideon or Auxiliary today? "The Word is active and alive. As Christians, we sow the Seed, and the Holy Spirit will do the rest. You might not see it here, but in Heaven, people will thank you for sharing the Gospel or handing them a Scripture."





Touched By a Testament in School and in the Military (Republic of Korea)

God's Word can leave a lasting impression in a person's heart and mind like no other book. One pastor from the Republic of Korea recalls the following ways a Scripture from The Gideons impacted his life.

My first memory of Gideons came when I was in elementary school. I was born into a Buddhist family and went to church because of difficult family circumstances. Due to financial difficulties, my parents sent me to a relatively inexpensive kindergarten that was part of a church. I went to this church for the first time on a Sunday morning at the recommendation of the kindergarten teacher.

My parents didn't object to me attending church, but they didn't buy me a Bible. The church was fun and a meeting place with teachers and friends. One day in front of the school, a Gideon handed out a small blue book—it was a Testament and my first copy of God's Word. I don't remember everything about that day, but it warms my heart whenever I think about it.

The second memory of Gideons is when I was a soldier. I was handed a Testament when I joined the Army. Thanks to this precious gift, I could carry around the Word of God all the time during my military life. Even when I was tired and exhausted, I took the time to read God's Word.

Pastor Cho

Influence of a Testament on a Pastor's Son

Edited by The Gideons International

I'm a Gideon and was assigned to speak at Cusseta Baptist Church. I was informed there would be a baptism that morning for a 10-year-old boy who was the pastor's son. I delivered my Gideon presentation and after the service, the pastor told me that three weeks earlier his son told him he wanted to be baptized. "Salvation is more than just being baptized," his dad said. The boy replied, "I know that, Dad. I've been reading my Testament that I was given at school, and I've signed and dated the decision page in the back."

Al Johnston

Lee County Camp (Alabama)

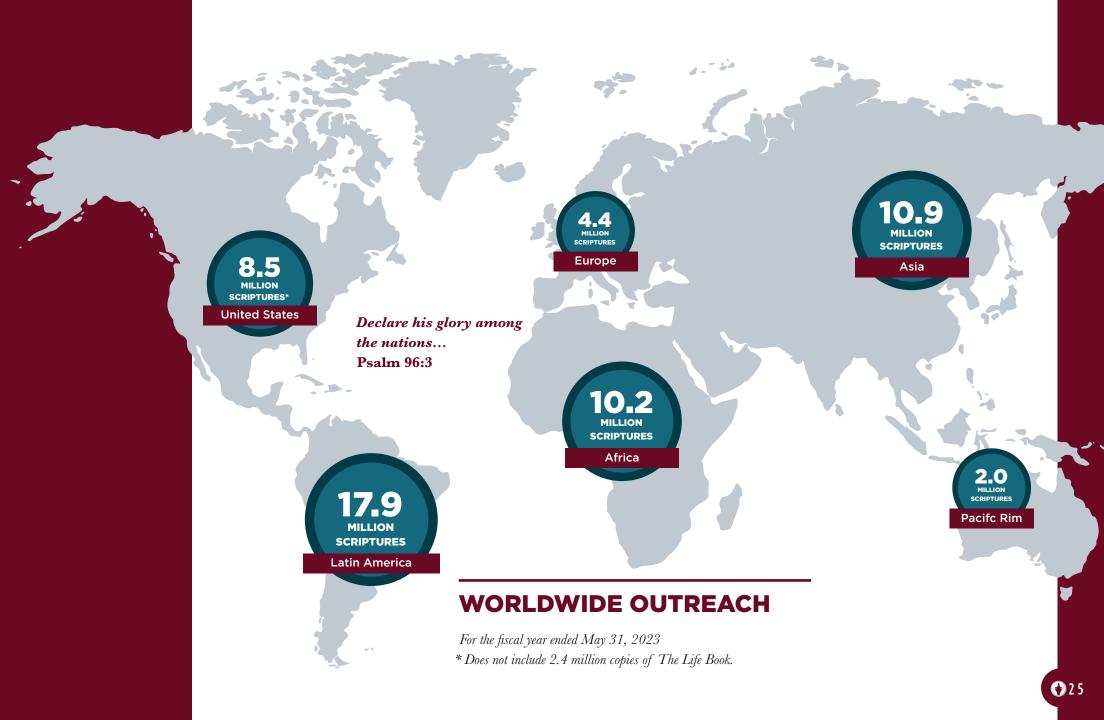


"I've been reading my Testament that I was given at school..."

PLACING AND DISTRIBUTING THE BIBLE

And this Gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

Matthew 24:14



Major USA Scripture Distribution Categories:

June 2022-May 2023

Youth 3,636,226

Percentage of total: 43%

Personal Witnessing 1,080,494

Percentage of total: 13%

Other Facilities 1,014,550

Including prisons and correctional facilities Percentage of total: 12%

College 965,900

Percentage of total: 11%

Hospital & Medical 909,681

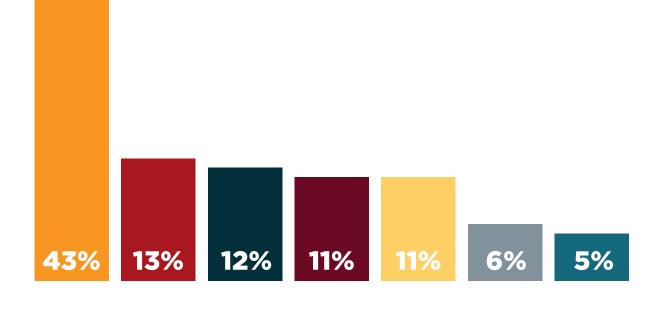
Percentage of total: 11%

Hotels 492,325

Percentage of total: 6%

Service 423,854

Percentage of total: 5%







School Bus Driver Sees Impact of Testaments on Students

The following text message was sent to The Gideons from a middle school bus driver following a Scripture distribution at Bridgeport Middle School in West Virginia:

The coolest experience on the bus by far since I've been driving! Gideons handed out Scriptures yesterday at the middle school. I sat at the high school for approximately 15 minutes with middle school kids on my bus. A half a dozen or so of the students started reading Scripture for a little bit and then say "popcorn" to tell the next person to read. My bus has never been so silent, every kid is listening, and today more kids are reading.

Hora Sea Building **GOD'S KINGDOM** THROUGH SHARING **GOD'S WORD**

Gideons Bring Answer to Teacher's Prayer

During the October 2022 International Scripture Blitz in Papua New Guinea, Gideons conducted a Scripture distribution in a village school near Salamaua. As they prepared to leave, a teacher, Ms. Ilagi, hurried towards them saying, "This is a miracle, this is a miracle, you won't believe this!" She told them how she had been trying to read from her Testament, which was falling apart and missing sections. Earlier that day she had prayed, "Lord, how am I going to get a new Scripture?" She said, "This is a miracle—God answered my prayer within four hours.

"This is a miracle—God answered my prayer within four hours."





Blitz Reports

Papua New Guinea International Scripture Blitz, October 2022

"Organization and commitment from the Lae Gideons was first class. With so many in the camp having belonged for less than two years, some only weeks, their excitement was evident as Scripture placements got underway."

David Jarrott, Mackey Camp (Australia) TEAM LEADER

Hungary International Scripture Blitz, October 2022

"These brothers and sisters were eager to participate in the planned distributions and demonstrated a strong commitment to the work of the ministry."

David W. Martin, Lake City Camp (Florida)
TEAM LEADER & PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Colombia International Scripture Blitz, April 2023

"Our prayer every morning was, 'Lord, open doors for us. Keep the doors open. Have hearts open and ready to receive the Gospel.' Why? Because it's the power of salvation for everyone who believes. We focused on the schools and universities, and nearly 100 percent of the students we encountered accepted a copy of God's Word."

Daniel J. Heighway, West Wilson Camp (Tennessee)
TEAM LEADER & INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THE IMPACT OF MEMBERSHIP

...standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the Gospel.

Philippians 1:27



One Auxiliary's Passion for the Power of Scripture

What breaks our hearts often leads us to take action. John Hill, and his wife Gloria, have been members of The Gideons for over 50 years. During this time, they have seen the Lord change many lives through the power of His Word. Gloria has a passion for helping broken women find Jesus Christ through the truth of Scripture. This desire has fueled some of the greatest moments in her life and ministry.

A Pardon for Their Sin

In 1976, God began leading Gloria toward jail ministry. "What pricked my heart about jail ministry was when I read verses about God cleansing us from all iniquity. I knew God could give these women a pardon for their sin. Even though they may have to remain behind prison bars, I wanted to tell them they could be forgiven," says Gloria.

She started training other Auxiliary in her camp and encouraging them to join her in jail ministry. Around that time, John came home from a Gideon prayer meeting and said, "Gloria, the Gideons have obtained permission for y'all to go





to the parish jail." The door was open. Gloria was reminded of Isaiah 65:24, "Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear." And so, they started to go once a month to the parish jail in Shreveport, Louisiana, and God gave them excellent opportunities to share about Him.

I Know You!

In 2015, Gloria and some fellow Auxiliary were on a distribution at a rehabilitation facility. "When I walked in, I saw the name Vera Davis printed on a lady's name tag. I recognized her because she had made a great impression on me when she was in the county jail." Gloria recalls her story:

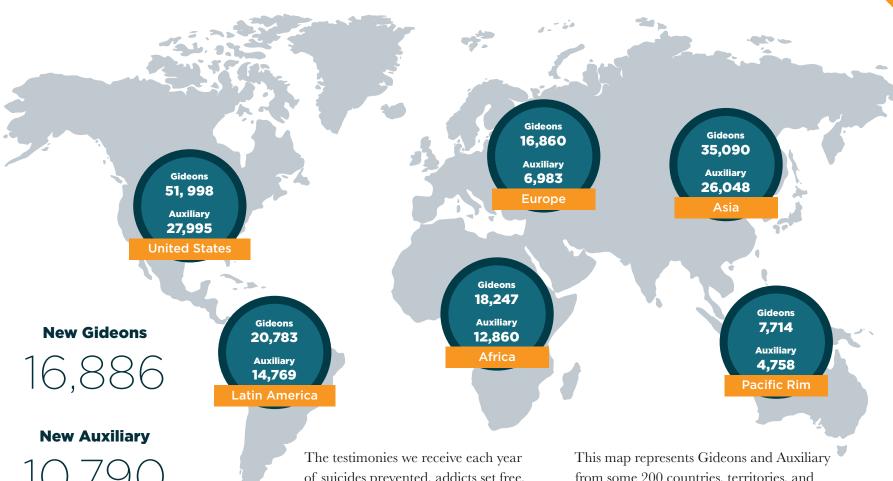
I remember going up to the cell, and I asked the women, 'Do you know if you died tonight that you would go to Heaven?' Vera knew that she wouldn't but told me she would sure like to. The other women in the cell said the same thing and received the Lord that day. The following week, I was at another cell, and there was Vera. She began to tell the girls what had happened the week before. It seemed like every week that I went, Vera was in a different cell, and she was telling people about Jesus and how He had

"Being an Auxiliary provides us with tools to use with these broken women."

transformed her life. When she was sent to state jail, she asked me if I would pick up her clothes and belongings. For 14 years, I had a box in my storage room with Vera Davis written on it.

Vera and Gloria had a joyful reunion that day at the rehabilitation facility. The administrator said, "We couldn't do without Vera around here." Vera replied, "I couldn't do without this place—it holds me accountable." God is effectively using her as she shares her testimony with others going through drug rehabilitation.

They are women who are broken and need to know Jesus. "They need help and love, which I like to give them," says Gloria. "Being an Auxiliary provides us with tools to use with these broken women. It also provides us with the confidence that we need as we approach them—it opens the door for us."



For the fiscal year ended May 31, 2023

The testimonies we receive each year of suicides prevented, addicts set free, marriages healed, and other salvation-related outcomes are directly related to the Scriptures placed and distributed, often with a personal word of witness, by our members. Without these faithful members, we could not accomplish our objective of winning others for Jesus.

This map represents Gideons and Auxiliary from some 200 countries, territories, and possessions, for the fiscal year. Please pray for our members as they continue on the journey to which God has called them to through The Gideons International.



A Gideon Makes Personal Witnessing a Daily Priority

Robert Gerred is a member of the Tulsa County South Camp in Oklahoma. His father, who was a Gideon, led him to Christ when Robert was nine years old. Influenced by his dad and other Gideons, Robert became passionate about winning the lost for Christ as a young boy, and in the 8th grade he led his first person to receive Jesus.

As a teen, he was hired to live at a boy's home where he could share Jesus with the 40 boys who were residents there. The last night before Robert left, the director asked all the boys to stand who had received Christ during their time in the home. What played out was amazing—23 out of 40 stood. God was using Robert to influence lives for the Kingdom.

Today, Robert works in construction, and loves witnessing even more than he did growing up. "As I'm getting ready for the day, I put a Testament in my pocket and pray, 'Lord, make me bold to share your Gospel." His passion for witnessing has always been there, but Robert credits the *Conversations* session from The Gideons for helping him become bolder in his efforts. "In the *Conversations* session, I was reminded about God's role and my responsibility. We must be ready for the opportunities God gives us—I need to be bolder with the opportunities God gives me."

But he knows it is all ordained by the Lord—Robert can do nothing in and of himself.

"Recently, God led me to people ready to receive Christ. This hasn't always been the case, but I see it more and more now. God does His part; I simply need to be obedient. I tell myself don't be lazy and be bold. If I don't open my mouth, it won't happen."

After he leads someone to receive the Lord, he will typically ask how the person got to him that day. "I see the sovereignty and design of the Lord in everything. Usually, an unusual circumstance (a wreck, situation, or other happening) leads to our meeting and conversation."

In terms of tracking his personal witnessing efforts, Robert leaves the total figures to the Lord. When asked for an overall estimate of people he's witnessed to in his lifetime, Robert humbly responds, "Somewhere in the thousands."

However, his 11-year-old granddaughter, Acelyn, follows his Facebook posts of people he has led in prayers to receive Christ. By her count, Robert led 102 people to Jesus in the past year. We praise the Lord for how He uses Robert and other members like him as they share the Gospel.



"As I'm getting ready for the day, I put a Testament in my pocket and pray, 'Lord, make me bold to share your Gospel.'"

New Gideon Discovers Joy of Sharing God's Word

I just returned from a wonderful but exhausting trip to Costa Rica. I'm new to the Association and am delighted to call myself a Gideon. I'm not fluent in Spanish and frequently rely on the translation features on my phone. I communicated with the gardeners, who excellently cared for the botanical gardens where I was staying. George, a fellow Gideon from my camp, had given me a half dozen Spanish Testaments to use in personal witnessing, to use in personal witnessing.. I walked up to the home of the gardeners and offered them God's Word in their own language. I could not believe how excited they were—it was as if they never had a Bible of their very own. They were thrilled and incredibly appreciative. What a great feeling to be a Gideon! I felt like I had been unexpectedly blessed.

Tom Parker

Gulf Breeze Camp (Florida)

God Answers Prayers to Save Camp from Extinction

The Superstition Mountain Camp was on the verge of extinction—they had five members, and four of them were 80 years old or older. One camp member recalls, "We realized actions were necessary if our camp was to exist. Our first action was to pray for the Holy Spirit to partner with us in our recruiting efforts. God answered our prayers! In the last two years, we have added ten new members who are active and are visiting with Christian men who qualify to become Gideons."

Leadership of The Gideons International

Jim Liou

Pierre Le Grange

John Rotunno

Greg Lange

For the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year

International Officers

Republic of China

(Taiwan)

South Africa

USA Zone 1

USA Zone 2

President	Kevin Beal	Hartselle, AL	USA Zone 3	John Ortega
Vice President	Kevin B. Keck	Sevierville, TN	USA Zone 4	Larry VanGilder
Treasurer	André du Plessis	Daniëlskuil, South Africa	USA Zone 5	Douglas S. Bicket
Chaplain	Dr. Kim G. Powell	Oregon, OH	USA Zone 6	Ronald Simpson
Secretary	Daniel J. Heighway	Mt. Juliet, TN	USA Zone 7	Bob Hubler
International Trustees			USA Zone 8	C. Dan Scott
Australia	Raymond A. Christ	inat	USA Zone 9	Bruce Patterson
Finland	Lasse Schultz		USA Zone 10	Steve Smith
Germany	Klaus Wahl		USA Zone 11	Lee Logwood
Japan	Takashi Kondo		USA Zone 12	A.C. (Chuck) Smith
Republic of Korea	El Jae Sung		International Auxiliary Officers	
Norway	Robin Wold		President	Lynne Peterson

Vice President

Secretary

Chaplain

Betty Dyson

Deena Hubler

Patsy Pigford

San Jose, CA

Jasper, IN

Orangeburg, SC

Aberdeen, MS

FINANCIAL RESULTS

2022-2023

As you read through this Annual Report, you can see how the Lord is using this Association to grow our members so they can reach more people with His Word. Their faith grew as they saw the Lord respond. As a result, God's Word was extended into the hands of more men, women, boys, and girls.

The financial numbers you see on these pages reflect the Lord's grace and mercy, as well as the faithful stewardship of our donors, ministry leaders, and others who partner with us in reaching the lost for Christ. Each dollar received represents funding that in one way or another helped the ministry of The Gideons advance the Gospel.

Would you like to consider how you can help reach others with the Gospel this coming year through your financial gift? Discover more ways to give on page 50 of this publication.



Dear christian friend,

In Psalm 145:8-9 we read: "The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made."

Following is a summary of the financial performance of our recently completed fiscal year, 2022-23.

World Scripture Funds, excluding USA Legacy receipts, reached US\$96.1 million or 114% of the World Scripture Funds goal of US\$84.2 million. Including USA Legacy Scripture receipts of US\$3.8 million, World Scripture receipts totaled US\$100.0 million.

The Lord's goodness is evident as 54.0 million Scriptures were purchased and placed this year. This is below our goal of 57.0 million; however, God enabled us to fill every order requested. Scripture orders in Supported National Association countries totaled 13.7 million. Scripture orders in International Countries totaled 29.1 million, but an additional 5.5 million Scriptures were placed using existing

Scripture inventories, bringing the yearly total to 59.5 million Scriptures ordered and placed. Placements of The Life Book totaled 2.4 million copies.

The following are key financial performance highlights across the worldwide ministry:

- 7 of the 8 Qualified National Associations exceeded their Scripture receipts goals in their local currency. Australia, Korea, Norway, Republic of China (Taiwan), and South Africa achieved year-over-year increases in their Scripture receipts in their local currency.
- The Supported National Associations of Brazil, India, and The Philippines exceeded their goal and exceeded prior year Scripture receipts in their local currency.
- 9 of the 11 International Countries regions exceeded their Scripture receipts goals. The following regions achieved increases in their Scripture receipts year over year: Africa North and Middle East, Asia, Europe East, Latin America Central, Latin America North and Caribbean, and Pacific Rim.
- 35 of the 38 USA state associations exceeded their Scripture receipts goals.

USA Church Receipts were US\$23.4 million or 102% of goal, an increase of 6.3% year over year. Churches where presentations were made increased by 2,354 for a total of 32,954 churches. We thank the Lord for 19 state associations that exceeded their church receipts goal.

USA GideonCard Bible Program receipts totaled US\$16.1 million, representing a decrease of 12.8% from the previous year. Praise God for 18 of 38 State Associations exceeding their annual GideonCard receipt goals.

The International Countries Ministry Faith Fund income totaled US\$35.1 million, which is 35% in excess of our annual goal, and an additional \$4.3 million received from national associations for total Faith Fund receipts of US\$39.4 million. Praise God!

USA Auxiliary Scripture receipts amounted to over US\$1.8 million. We thank God for the faithful giving by the Auxiliary.

The Lord has blessed our Association's efforts to steward Scripture printing costs through negotiations with our worldwide vendors. The average cost of getting a copy of God's Word in someone's hands was US\$1.53 this past fiscal year.

Stewardship activity continues to be an important source of funds. Legacy receipts totaled US\$14.1 million, an increase of 13.7% over last year and the highest in history. We thank God for our TorchBearers who choose to leave a legacy to The Gideons International, supporting the free distribution of the Word of God.

I am grateful that the Lord has blessed me with a highly skilled and efficient team of men on the Finance Committee. Additionally, the input of the Headquarters Staff has been truly exceptional.

God is good all the time!



André du Plessis International Treasurer The Gideons International



Statement of Activities

Fiscal Year Ended May 31, 2023

SUPPORT & REVENUES	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL AMOUNT
Contributions			
General Support	\$17,686,836	-	\$17,686,836
Endowment	_	\$1,505,213	\$1,505,213
Scriptures	\$64,613,540	\$17,537,299	\$82,150,839
USA Used at State & Local Level*	\$8,457,723	_	\$8,457,723
International Contributions	\$8,039,130	_	\$8,039,130
Dues Income	\$5,464,320	_	\$5,464,320
Investment Income (Loss)	\$1,960,788	(\$7,851)	\$1,952,937
Merchandise Sales	\$2,229,873	_	\$2,229,873
Other Income	\$261,273	_	\$261,273
Net assets released from restrictions			
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions	\$16,574	(\$16,574)	_
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUES	\$108,730,057	\$19,018,087	\$127,748,144

*NOTE: State & Local Level Income & Expenses are included in Revenues, as well as Expenses of the Associations. [Funded from personal donations by individual members.]

Excerpt from 2022-23 Audited Financial Statements. For more detailed information, go to Gideons.org/Financials.

EXPENSES	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL AMOUNT
Program Services			
Scripture Purchases & Distribution	\$74,220,641	-	\$74,220,641
Membership Support & Devleopment	\$14,646,823	-	\$14,646,823
State & Local Level*	\$9,953,877	-	\$9,953,877
	\$98,821,341	-	\$98,821,341
Supporting Services			
Management & General	\$6,012,551	-	\$6,012,551
Fundraising	\$3,909,264	-	\$3,909,264
	\$9,921,815	-	\$9,921,815
Operating Expenses	\$108,743,156	-	\$108,743,156
Change in net assets from operations	\$(13,099)	\$19,018,087	\$19,004,988
Nonoperating activites			
Actuarial adjustment on annuity obligations and payments to donors	\$(753,359)	\$(85,148)	\$(838,507)
Nonqualified pension plan expense	\$(77,529)	-	\$(77,529)
Change in net assets from non-operating activities	\$(830,888)	\$(85,148)	\$(916,036)
Change in net assets	\$(843,987)	\$18,932,939	\$18,088,952
Beginning-of-year net assets	\$66,039,141	\$100,302,119	\$166,341,260
End-of-year net assets	\$65,195,154	\$119,235,058	\$184,430,212

Operating Expense Percentages:

Fiscal Year Ended May 31, 2023

Scripture Purchases and Distribution

\$74,220,641

Membership Support and Development

\$14,646,823

State and Local Level*

\$9,953,877

Management and General

\$6,012,551

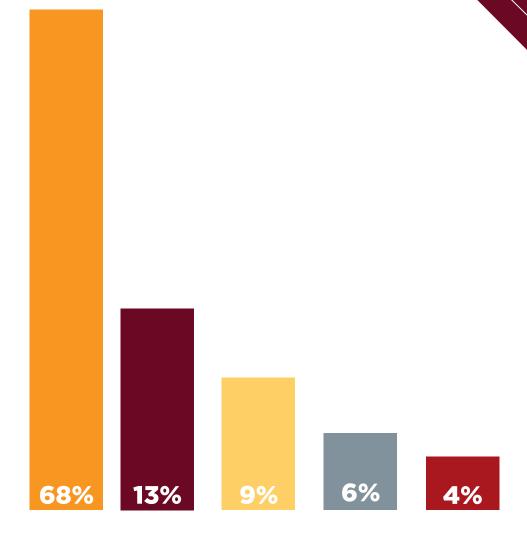
Fundraising

\$3,909,264

Total

\$108,743,156

*State & Local Level Income & Expenses are included in Revenues, as well as Expenses of the Associations. [Funded from personal donations by individual members.]



WORSHIPPING GOD AS A FAITHFUL STEWARD

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.

1 Peter 4:10

Men and Women Who Give

Gideons and Auxiliary commit to an ongoing emphasis on the importance of fulfilling seven Spiritual Objectives, one of which is, being "Men and Women who Give." We serve a generous God. As we steward the resources He has entrusted to us, we invest in His Kingdom work as an act of worship.

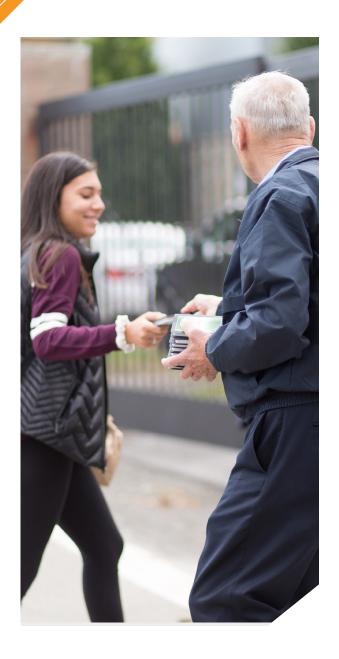
Our members and other Christian brothers and sisters faithfully give to The Gideons International to financially support God's Kingdom throughout some 200 countries, territories, and possessions where we are organized and operating. The Gideons partners with Protestant and evangelical churches for prayer, identifying potential members, and providing financial support to carry out the Great Commission

Through these partnerships, we raise funds from church offerings and the GideonCard Bible Program and unite in our objective of winning others for the Lord Jesus Christ. How do these gifts support God's work locally, domestically, and internationally? Locally, a portion of contributions provide Scriptures to the nearby Gideon camp so members can make God's Word available in the community's traffic lanes of life. Another portion of donations provides Scriptures domestically throughout the United States in military, hospital, and jail settings. We are also able to mobilize students to reach their classmates with the Gospel as they share free copies of The Life Book.

Additionally, we provide Scriptures to International Countries and Supported National Associations. In many of these places, the opportunities to share God's Word exceed the financial resources available within the country. Responding to this challenge, The Gideons established the Faith Fund. Gideons and Auxiliary donate funds for any deficit in the

international ministry so that Scripture orders can be fulfilled and members can be equipped to faithfully share the Gospel. Such giving demonstrates the spirit of One Vision, "Striving side by side for the faith of the Gospel."

By living as Men and Women who Give, Gideons and Auxiliary, together with churches and fellow believers, courageously put our ultimate faith in Jesus Christ. It is Him we trust as we steward our time, talents, and treasures.



COMMITMENT TO FINANCIAL INTEGRITY

When you financially contribute to The Gideons International, you can have confidence that your gift will be used effectively and efficiently to spread God's Word. As an accredited member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA), The Gideons is committed to fulfilling the standard found in 2 Corinthians 8:21, "for we aim at what is honorable not only in the Lord's sight but also in the sight of man."

ECFA's Seven Standards of Responsible StewardshipTM, drawn from Scripture, are fundamental to operating with integrity. The Gideons International adheres to these seven standards:

- **1. DOCTRINAL ISSUES:** Written statement clearly affirming a commitment to the evangelical Christian faith.
- 2. **GOVERNANCE:** Responsible board, a majority independent, who establish policy and review accomplishments.
- 3. **FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT:** Complete and accurate financial statements, and engagement of an independent certified public accountant.
- 4. USE OF RESOURCES AND COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS:

Appropriate management and controls to assure all operations are carried out, and resources used, in a responsible manner and in conformity with applicable laws and regulations—such conformity taking into account biblical mandates.

- 5. **TRANSPARENCY:** Current financial statements provided upon written request and other disclosures as the law may require.
- COMPENSATION-SETTING
 AND RELATED-PARTY
 TRANSACTIONS: Set compensation
 of top leader and related-party
 transactions that demonstrate integrity
 and propriety.
- 7. **STEWARDSHIP OF CHARITABLE GIFTS:** Truthfulness in communications, giver expectations and intent, charitable gifts communication, acting in the best interest of givers, and percentage compensation for securing charitable gifts.

For more detailed financial information, go to: Gideons.org/financials



A Gideon from Ukraine Dies Taking God's Word to the Battlefront

Victor was a Gideon who served in a camp near Kiev in Ukraine. As a Gideon, he was a man of prayer and a man with a heart to witness to those God placed in his sphere of influence. Even with the country under wartime attack, Victor did not allow the dreadful noises of explosions and crumbling buildings to drown out the voice of the Lord. He told his family and friends, "The Lord has called me to go to the war zone and share His Word with the soldiers." Additionally, he believed there was a specific soldier with whom the Lord wanted him to share the Gospel. As a Gideon who was fully committed to carry out God's call on his life to win the lost for Christ, Victor volunteered for Ukraine's army as the war intensified. He was taking God's Word to the battlefront.

Victor's unit granted him a few days of military leave in early December 2022 to spend time with his family. During this break, he accepted an invitation from his pastor to share with his church how he was seeing the Lord at work. Speaking to the congregation, Victor revealed how the Lord was granting him opportunities to reach others in the war zone as he shared God's Word. He told them about one specific soldier who "gladly took the Word of God into his heart and repented." It was a message of hope for his Ukraine Christian brothers and sisters during a Christmas season filled with uncertainty regarding any sign of peace to come.

Victor then returned to his military unit in Bahmut to continue his assignment to win the lost for Christ. Days later, his mission on this side of Heaven ended. Victor, age 51, was killed.

At his funeral on December 22, hundreds of people came to pay their last respects. Testimony after testimony from those attending his service pointed to Victor's devotion to winning the lost to Jesus as he served in The Gideons. His pastor received messages from several members of his military unit who testified that Victor was a "ray of light," and that he had led many in prayers of repentance. As he poured out the love of Christ on his fellow soldiers, Victor earned a reputation among them as the kindest man in their unit.

Victor leaves behind his widow, Aida, and four children, including his 14-year-old daughter who still lives at home. He also leaves behind a legacy of selfless courage. We thank Victor's family for allowing us to share his story with our readers.

Within weeks of his death, funds to provide more than 975 Bibles in Victor's memory through the GideonCard Bible Program had been donated by those touched by his life.

Please pray for Victor's widow, children, other family members, and friends as they mourn their loved one's passing.





PARTNER WITH US

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel.

Philippians 1:27





Please Pray for:

- **PRAY** for new and ongoing opportunities for Scripture placement in hotels around the world, as we trust the Lord to remove any barriers that would keep His Word from reaching the unreached.
- **PRAY** that God will use the personal witness and Scriptures distributed by Gideons throughout the world—including those in schools and colleges, hotels, hospitals and medical offices, prisons and jails, and rescue missions.
- **PRAY** for the lost to come to faith in Jesus Christ.
- **PRAY** for new believers and their walk with the Lord, specifically that they would pursue Jesus above all things.
- **PRAY** for clarity, courage, and conviction for those who are still processing faith decisions.
- **PRAY** for the safety of Gideons who are sharing the Gospel and their personal testimonies in places which are hostile to Christianity.

MAKE A GIFT TODAY

Conveniently give to The Gideons International anytime by visiting Gideons.org/Donate.

- **Donate and supply Scriptures:**Give to the Faith Fund which provides financial assistance in countries that cannot afford to supply all of their own Scriptures.
- Donate and support the overall ministry: Meet the pressing needs of The Gideons International today by giving a donation wherever needed most.
- Multiply your impact through ongoing giving: Select the "make this a monthly donation" option to begin a recurring gift for either Scriptures or wherever needed most.

TALK TO OUR STAFF PROFESSIONALS

Staff of The Gideons Stewardship Division at International Headquarters are ready to support you in accomplishing your generosity goals. They are available to assist you in stewarding your God-given resources in a way that expresses your deepest values and honors the Lord. You may reach them by calling or emailing:

615-564-5277 (M-F, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Central)

stewardship@gideons.org

The Gideons International P.O. Box 140800 Nashville, TN 37214-0800

GIDEONCARD BIBLE PROGRAM

GideonCards are more than attractive greeting cards; they are a personal and practical Christian outreach. Each card has two recipients: the person who receives the card and the second person—somewhere in the world—who will ultimately encounter the Gospel because the funds provided through GideonCards support Scripture distribution. Visit SendTheWord.org to choose a card and donate Bibles in honor or memory of someone.

LEAVE A LEGACY

TorchBearers is a special group of members and supporters of The Gideons International who express their faith and further their legacy by including the ministry in their estate plans. Future provision to win others for the Lord Jesus Christ has eternal impact. Just like Gideon, the Old Testament judge whose 300 men broke open their jars to shed the light of their torches (Judges 7:16-20), TorchBearers can spread the light of the Gospel for generations to come.

To become a TorchBearer, consider including The Gideons International in your estate plans. If you have named The Gideons as a beneficiary through your will, trust, life insurance, or financial account, please contact the Stewardship team at International Headquarters so we can honor your intentions.



"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

Hebrews 13:16



FRIENDS OF GIDEONS

Partner through Friends of Gideons

Friends of The Gideons have a heart for seeing people come to Christ and are committed to supporting The Gideons through prayer and financial support. Friends are also encouraged to share their faith using copies of God's Word available for purchase. Additionally, Friends receive ministry updates, testimonies, and ways to pray for The Gideons through the Friends of Gideons website and occasional mailings.

If you are not a member or a current Friend but want to see others won for the Lord Jesus Christ, consider joining Friends of Gideons. Learn more at **FriendsOfGideons.org**.





STAY CONNECTED

For the latest news, testimonies, and other inspiring content from our ministry, visit:

Gideons.org/blog | Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram! **f y** ⊙

HAVE A GIDEON-RELATED TESTIMONY TO SHARE?

testimonies@gideons.org

GIDEON BIBLE APP

Easy access to Scripture for reading and listening. **Download from the App Store & Google Play. A**

GIDEONNOW APP (FOR MEMBERS ONLY)

Connect with other members, find upcoming events, and more. **Download from the App Store & Google Play. A**

theConnection (for members only)

the connection. gideons.org

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:58







Gideons.org

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