



LET'S SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS

MINISTRY IMPACT



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“...and you will be my witnesses
in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria,
and to the end of the earth.”

ACTS 1:8 (ESV)

LET'S SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS

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GOD-INSPIRED
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REACHING
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Dear Friend in Christ,

Together, let's praise God for all He has accomplished this past year through The Gideons International. It has been extraordinary to see our Lord at work through this ministry.

We are indeed part of a God-inspired mission. He has provided us with more Scripture funds than ever before. As a result, over 91.8 million people have received God's Word – a record number reached in one year. Often, that Scripture a man, woman, or child received was accompanied by a word of witness from the Gideon or Auxiliary providing it.

Sharing Scriptures is an integral part of what we do; however, we strive to do much more. We must stay focused on our primary goal and objective of reaching a lost and dying world with the glorious news that Jesus – and only Jesus – saves. In addition to sharing God's Word, we need to be associating together with one another to serve and more effectively support this unique calling. Most importantly, we each should pray for boldness to personally witness at every God-given opportunity.

As Jesus commissioned all of us who follow Him, we are to:

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...”

[MATTHEW 28:19 ESV]

This past year, Gideons and Auxiliary around the world purchased and shared more than two and a half million Personal Workers Testaments. Praise the Lord! If each and every member will seek God's guidance and share at least one New Testament every week along with our personal testimonies, we will easily meet the Vision 2020 goal of distributing 120 million Scriptures annually by 2020. More importantly, we will impact millions of lives for Christ.

As I complete my term of office as your president, I want to finish with a word of challenge. Let me offer a little reality. Although we have been greatly blessed over the past years, Joshua would remind us that, “...there remains yet very much land to possess” (Joshua 13:1 ESV). Estimates indicate that, worldwide, four to five billion people today are unsaved.

Estimates indicate that, worldwide, four to five billion people today are unsaved.

Yes, the task ahead of us is an awesome challenge, but remember the task ahead of us is never greater than the power behind us. Our Lord Jesus Christ will continue to bless this Association, and those who support us, if we will dedicate ourselves to serving Him.



With kind regards

Yours sincerely,

Dr. William E. G. Thomas
International President

A LIFE OF MINISTRY

Jason and Paula Hall joined The Gideons International in 2005 in western North Carolina

when Paula's father, a Gideon since 1989, invited them to attend a dinner for potential members. “I actually didn't have any intention of becoming a member, because I couldn't see how I would have time for it,” said Jason. “But as I looked around, I saw men of various professions, all of whom had one common goal: witnessing to the lost. By the end of the meeting, I knew this was something I wanted to be a part of.”



Gideon events, particularly Scripture distributions, slowly began to populate the Hall family calendar. “It actually became part of our family naturally,” explained Paula. “As the kids grew older we began taking them with us. They developed really special relationships with The Gideons, and it’s been the perfect way for us to teach them ministry is the most important thing in life. We have also made countless friends, not only at local meetings, but also at North Carolina state conventions and International Conventions.”



“It’s a continuity that transcends cultures and time zones.”

With this Association, Gideons and Auxiliary across the globe are working as one unit, for one purpose.”

The Halls have attended four International Conventions. “Nothing compares to it,” said Paula, “We hear countless testimonies from men and women who have come to know the Lord under dire circumstances, or who have experienced God move in mighty ways. It’s amazing for me to consider how there are men and women on the other side of the world who are doing exactly what we are. It’s a continuity that transcends cultures and time zones. With this Association, Gideons and Auxiliary across the globe are working as one unit, for one purpose.”

This continuity became a reality to Jason when he began to travel for International Scripture Blitzes. Blitzes partner local Gideons in specific countries with visiting international teams, and together over one to two weeks, they take as many Bibles and New Testaments



“Anyone can find a place, and together we can make a difference by spreading the Good News.”

as possible to schools, hospitals, prisons, and more. Jason has participated in International Scripture Blitzes to Malaysia, Argentina, and Kenya. “It’s nothing like being a tourist,” he said. “When you go on a blitz, you meet the locals, and you get to know the culture and the language. They invite you into their home and make you part of their family. You live their lives with them, and you do ministry with them.”

Jason’s international experience has given him insight to better understand The Gideons’ relationship with local churches. As an extended missionary arm of the church, Gideons take the Word to the world and point the world back to the church. The church, in turn, supports The Gideons through donations and, more importantly, through prayer. “A pastor in Argentina and his entire congregation fasted for us, prayed for us, and supported us. There was so much love in that church, it was amazing. It made me realize that, as partners in ministry, we can do more and go farther working together than working alone.”

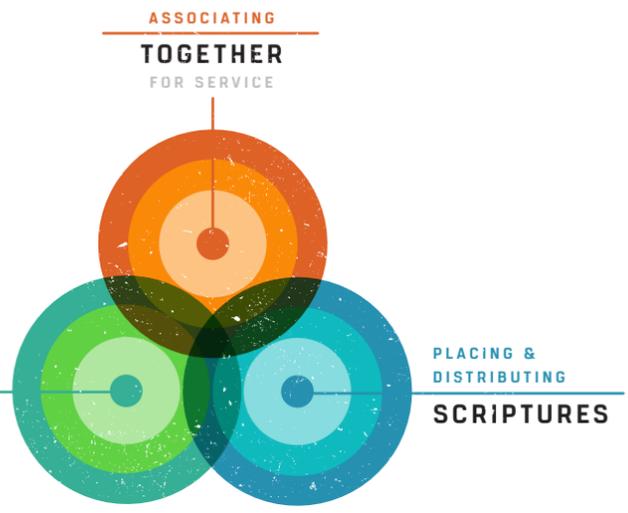
Jason and Paula joined The Gideons with a desire to impact lives with the Gospel. Along the way, they discovered ministry had a way of making just as big an impact on their lives, as well. “We’ve been truly blessed,” said Jason. “If anyone wants to be a better witness for God, there’s no better way than to be involved with The Gideons. Anyone can find a place, and together we can make a difference by spreading the Good News.”



BE PART OF A GOD-INSPIRED MISSION

WINNING THE LOST FOR THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

through associating together for service,
personal testimony & personal work,
and placing & distributing Scriptures.



“Go therefore and make
disciples of all nations...”

MATTHEW 28:19 (ESV)



THE GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL – MUCH MORE THAN HOTEL BIBLES.

The Gideons International is an Association of Christian business and professional men and their wives dedicated to telling people about Jesus through associating together, personal witnessing, and by providing Bibles and New Testaments in strategic public areas.

The Gideons International serves as an extended missionary arm of the protestant or evangelical church, working alongside pastors and churches across the globe. The Gideons International partners with churches anywhere to reach the unreached everywhere.

Spreading the Good News means much more than distributing Scriptures. The Association's primary mission is winning the lost for Christ. First and foremost, members share their personal testimonies with those who need to know the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior. In fact, Gideons and Auxiliary (wives and widows of Gideons) purchased more than two and a half million New Testaments on their own last year to give out while witnessing.

Hotel Bibles represent just a small portion of the ministry efforts – about 2%. Approximately 80% of the Scriptures are shared one-on-one with students in schools and colleges. Bibles and New Testaments are also offered in other ways, including distributions to inmates in prisons and jails, as well as Scripture placements in hospitals and medical offices. During these distributions, Gideons and Auxiliary pray for God-appointed opportunities to tell the Gospel story.

Hotel Bibles represent just a small portion of the ministry efforts.



A UNIQUE AND EFFECTIVE APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL EVANGELISM.

Our members serve in the countries where they live.

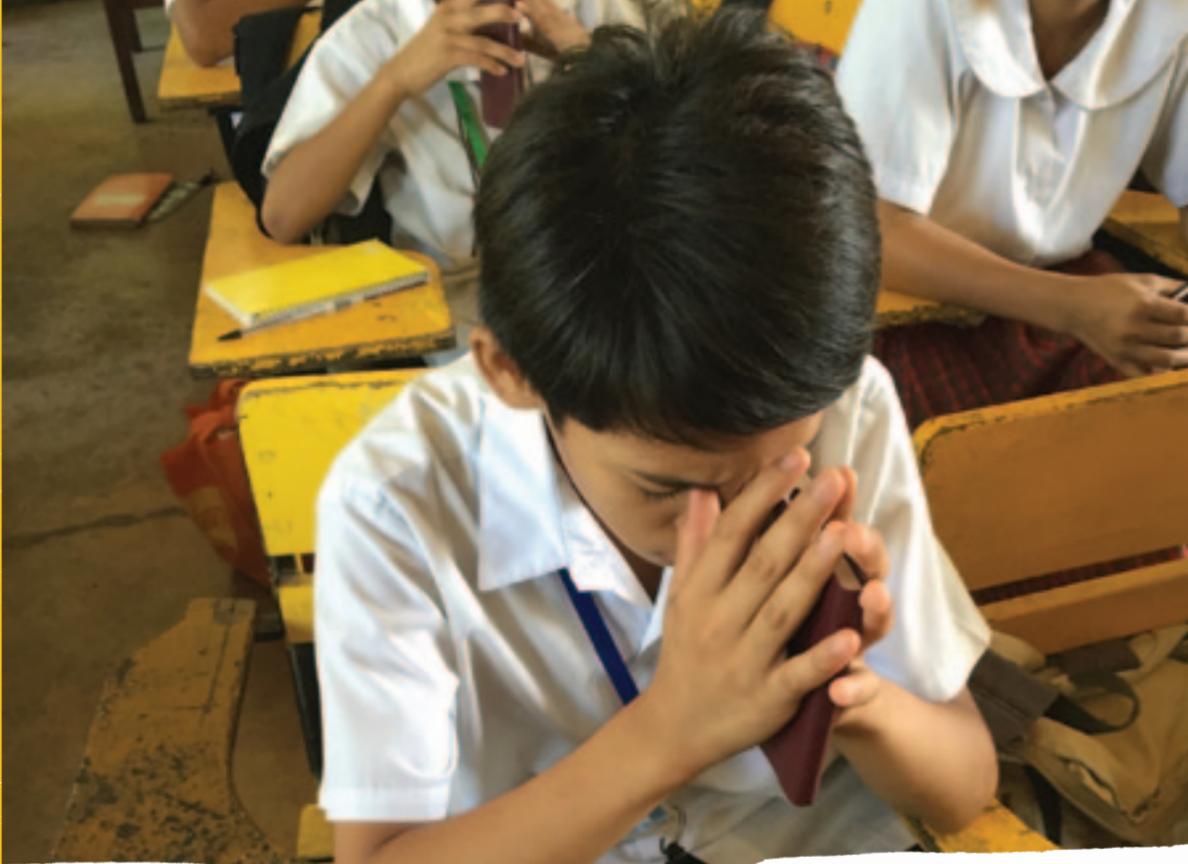
THEY MAKE A POWERFUL IMPACT BECAUSE:

- Local Gideons speak the language, understand and respect the customs.
- They know the locations of hotels, schools, prisons, hospitals, and other places where Bibles and New Testaments need to be provided... and they might personally witness.
- Sometimes, the Association is able to establish local groups of Gideons in countries where traditional missionaries aren't allowed to go.

GIDEONS MAKE INROADS TO CHINA

In seeking to reach the world for Christ, God has opened countless doors for us. Over 200,000 copies of God's Word were shared in The People's Republic of China during the last twelve months.





GOD IS ALSO PROVIDING MANY "FRIENDS"

WHO SUPPORT THE GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL.

Worldwide, more than 90,000 people have become Friends of Gideons to help us in spreading the Good News. Prayer Partner Friends regularly pray for our ministry efforts. They also have the option to be Financial Friends, sharing Scriptures and participating in select Gideon events. This past year, Financial Friends in the USA donated over \$187,000 to The Gideons International.

GOD IS CONTINUALLY AT WORK

THROUGH THE GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL.

During the past fiscal year, through God's blessings, The Gideons International distributed over 91.8 million copies of His Word – setting a new one-year record. This number exceeded our goal for the year by nearly two million Scriptures.

A new one-year record.



Vanessa was one of the earthquake survivors to receive a New Testament from Gideons. She and her husband escaped piling rubble from their building's collapse. With God's Word now in her possession, she has decided to follow Him in her everyday life and thanks God for His protection.

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

I PETER 4:10 (ESV)

SHARING GOD'S WORD WITH MANY

AFTER NATURAL DISASTERS.

The Gideons International implements a Disaster and Tragedy Scripture Distribution Policy.

Gideons shared Scriptures in September 2015 to many displaced following the California wildfires. Then, in April 2016, Gideons and their wives provided 19,000 Scriptures to those suffering in the aftermath of the Ecuador earthquake.



TIMELINE FOR THE GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL



1898
John Nicholson and Samuel Hill share a room and a vision.

JULY 1899
Nicholson, Hill, and W.J. Knights prayerfully choose a name: The Gideons.

1908
A pastor proposes churches be responsible to raise funds for Bible placement by Gideons.

1916
Gideon Hospital Bible placements begin.

1934
Auxiliary supply Bibles to women's homes, hospitals, and Y.W.C.A.'s.

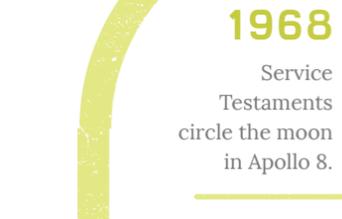


APRIL 1941
The first New Testaments are distributed to military personnel.

Auxiliary begin distributions of New Testaments to service nurses.

NOV. 1941

“And the word of God continued to increase...”
ACTS 6:7 (ESV)



1968
Service Testaments circle the moon in Apollo 8.



1948-1955
The Netherlands, South Africa, Japan, and Ecuador are added.

1946
Gideons begin New Testament distributions to students in the 5th - 12th grades.

The 100 millionth Scripture is ordered.

1971
Distributions to college students are initiated.

1972
The 200 millionth Scripture is ordered.

JAN. 2015
The 200th country, territory, or possession is opened: Saint Martin.

JULY 2008
Gideons celebrate 100 years of distributing God's Word.



2001
The 1 billionth Scripture is ordered.

1990
The 500 millionth Scripture is ordered.

SEPT. 1989
Poland, Hungary, and Yugoslavia are opened.



MAY 2015
The 2 billionth Scripture is ordered.



JULY 2015
The Gideon Bible App is introduced.

MAY 2016
Over 91.8 million Scriptures are shared – a new one-year record.

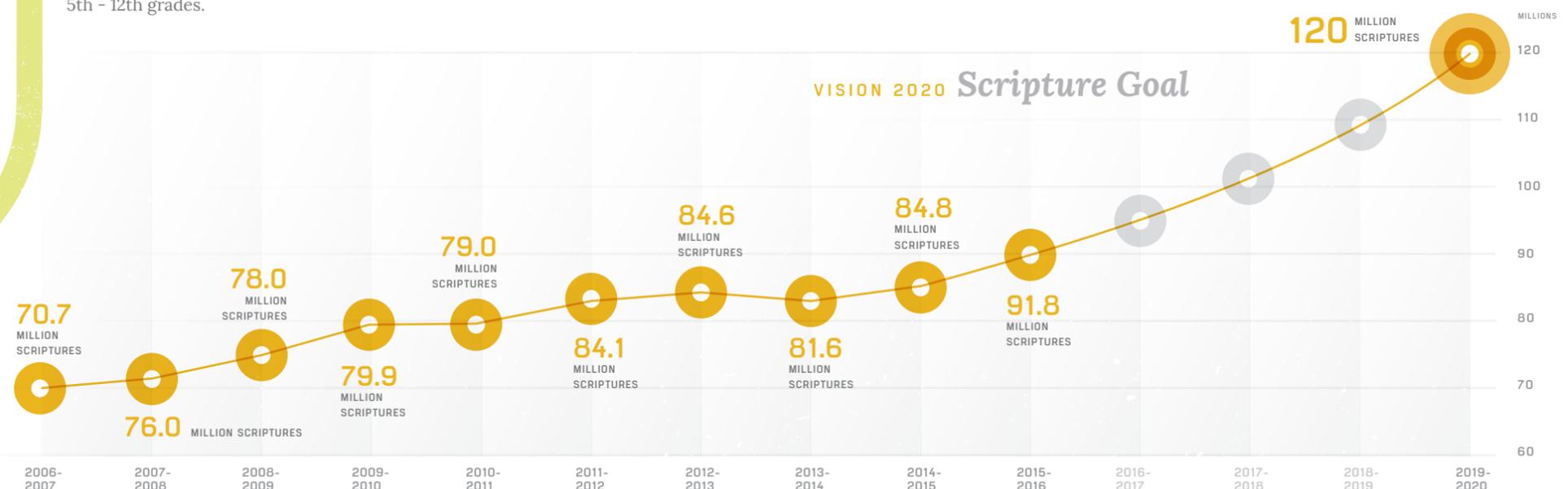
2020

VISION 2020

A GOD-INSPIRED VISION

After prayerfully seeking God's will, The Gideons International established Vision 2020 to more effectively win the lost for Christ. Vision 2020 seeks to strengthen church relationships, involve all Gideons and Auxiliary in ministry, and address the escalating worldwide need for God's Word.

The Scripture goal is to distribute 120 million Bibles and New Testaments annually by the year 2020. This will only be achieved through God's leadership as He works through committed members, donors, and churches.



Dear Friend in Christ,

As we move forward in this new fiscal year, let's commit to spreading the Good News as never before.

In the midst of a world that desperately needs Jesus, we are comforted by the words found in Luke 21:13–15, “This will be your opportunity to bear witness. Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict.”

For this reason, we can be encouraged. History gives testimony when God's people are pushed into the margins by society – the Gospel flourishes. As Christians surrounded by lost souls, we must strive to share Christ's life-changing story with all. Worldwide, let's spread the Good News by personally witnessing and getting God's Word into the hands of those who do not know Jesus Christ as Savior.

So many people are without the true hope found only in Christ that we sought God's will for the Association in dedicated prayer. Vision 2020 was embraced by our members as the way to touch more lives for Christ than ever before. One key goal is to distribute 120 million Scriptures annually by the year 2020—more than a 30% increase from where we are today. What an impact it will make by giving God's Word to 10 million people every month. Only through God's grace will this become a reality. We ask every member, donor, pastor, and Friend of Gideons to make this an ongoing matter of prayer—and seek God's will in how He would have you take part.

The Gideons International set a record for Scripture distributions this past year – 91.8 million. However, our focus is not the number of Scriptures provided...it is the lives impacted for Christ. Many Scripture distributions include opportunities to personally witness one-on-one. Here's an example from a recent International Scripture Blitz in Uganda:

One of the blessings Tim Thumeling experienced occurred as he and other Gideons shared the Word of God and witnessed at a large Ugandan health clinic. They saw twenty-one people receive Christ. Tim was moved by the experience, saying, “What a joy, as these people came in search of physical healing, and instead left the clinic with the pure spiritual healing that only Jesus Christ can provide.”

Thank you for your continued prayers and dedicated support of this ministry. As a result, more people are receiving the Good News of Jesus Christ and coming into His Kingdom.



Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Craig Warner".

Craig Warner
Executive Director

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel,
for it is the power of God for salvation
to everyone who believes...”

ROMANS 1:16 (ESV)

AWAKENING IN NYERI

Deep in the Central Highlands of Southwestern Kenya,

two lone men sat on the side of a steep mountain road. Their truck had broken down, and it rested idly a few feet away from them. The nearest mechanic had taken a job in a town an hour away, and the two men had no choice but to wait for his return. Suddenly, a motorcycle came into view. “Can I help you?” the rider asked in Swahili after he came to a stop in front of them.

The men quickly explained, they were Gideons, and they were scheduled to visit several local schools that afternoon to deliver copies of God's Word. Without a word, the cyclist sped off. He returned shortly, accompanied by a mechanic. Soon, the truck had been revived, and the two men were ready to be on their way again, just in time to make their next appointment. As they left, the Gideons noticed a small, hand-written sign attached to the rear of the motorcycle. It read, "God is able."

Several months earlier, Gideons in the city of Nyeri had begun to perceive a deep spiritual need among the district's inhabitants. As a predominantly Christian region, churches in Nyeri are plentiful. However, few people possessed their own copy of the Word of God.

A team of local Gideons devised a plan to meet that spiritual need. Together with the help of an international team, they would take Bibles and small, pocket-sized New Testaments to as many schools as possible over the course of a one-week period, beginning with schools in the outermost areas of the country and gradually working their way to the schools in the city proper.

The Gideons noticed a small, hand-written sign attached to the rear of the motorcycle. It read, "God is able."



The schools they visited varied in size and structure, but none of the Gideons could deny an earnest, palpable hunger for God's Word at each and every one of them. Teams received warm welcomes from administrative staff, some of whom found it difficult to conceal their excitement. The students gathered in courtyards and open fields, and Gideons shared the Gospel message before presenting each delighted student with their own New Testament.

This eager and sincere response to the Gideons' efforts became a familiar scene as they moved from school to school. One administrator, Margaret, traveled over two hours, on foot, in pursuit of the men who had visited her



school earlier that morning. "I needed to thank you," she explained when she found them. "My husband is a pastor, and for many months our congregation has been praying for someone to bring the Gospel to the students in our schools. You are the ones God sent to preach about Christ. You are the answer to all of our prayers."

"You are the ones God sent to preach about Christ. You are the answer to all of our prayers."

The teams visited a total of 607 schools, and over 150,000 copies of God's Word are now in the possession of men, women, and children across Nyeri county. As these individuals take Scriptures home to their families and friends, opportunities become available for countless souls to read the Good News. The full extent to which those

Scriptures will impact lives is unknown, yet the Gideons remain joyfully and prayerfully confident in the promise that where their work ends – God is able.

A man in a dark suit and glasses is reading from a small book to a group of children. The children are looking at the book with interest. The scene is set in a simple, possibly outdoor or semi-outdoor, environment. The entire image has a blue tint.

“So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”

ISAIAH 55:11 (ESV)



SHARE CHRIST'S LIFE-CHANGING STORY

God works through His Word and our witnessing to change lives and bring people into His Kingdom.

IN 2015-16, OUR MEMBERS
WITNESSED AND SHARED
**A RECORD 91.8 MILLION
SCRIPTURES.**

God has promised us that His Word will make a difference in lives – if we will simply spread the Good News.

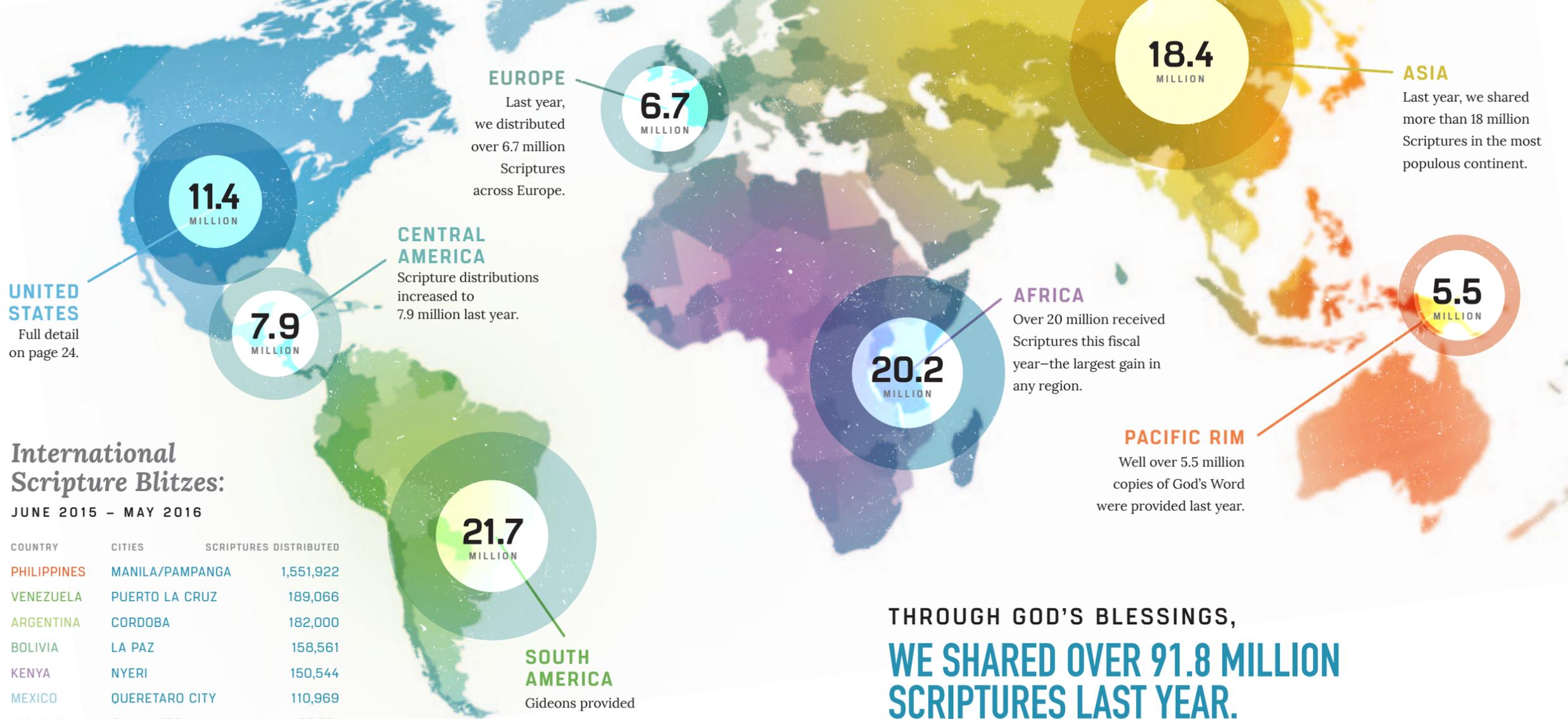
We also share the Gospel worldwide through the Gideon Bible App. The Gideon Bible App presents God's Word in over 1,000 languages. Similar to the Scriptures we use in witnessing, this App features the plan of salvation so anyone can find out how to have a personal relationship with Christ.

Find out more about the Gideon Bible App at: gideons.bible.is



ALMOST 2.8 MILLION PEOPLE RECEIVED GOD'S WORD THROUGH INTERNATIONAL SCRIPTURE BLITZES.

Each year, we target countries in tremendous need of God's Word. During these Blitzes, our members place and distribute Bibles and New Testaments in hotels, hospitals, prisons, schools, and more.



International Scripture Blitzes:

JUNE 2015 – MAY 2016

COUNTRY	CITIES	SCRIPTURES DISTRIBUTED
PHILIPPINES	MANILA/PAMPANGA	1,551,922
VENEZUELA	PUERTO LA CRUZ	189,066
ARGENTINA	CORDOBA	182,000
BOLIVIA	LA PAZ	158,561
KENYA	NYERI	150,544
MEXICO	QUERETARO CITY	110,969
NICARAGUA	CHINANDEGA	95,551
THAILAND	HAT YAI	89,000
INDONESIA	SURABAYA	75,218
CHILE	PUERTO MONTT	74,548
LESOTHO	MASERU	49,460
MALAYSIA	PENANG	38,850
ITALY	ROME	24,317
TOTAL:		2,790,006

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS AND WIN THE WORLD FOR CHRIST.

THROUGH GOD'S BLESSINGS, WE SHARED OVER 91.8 MILLION SCRIPTURES LAST YEAR.

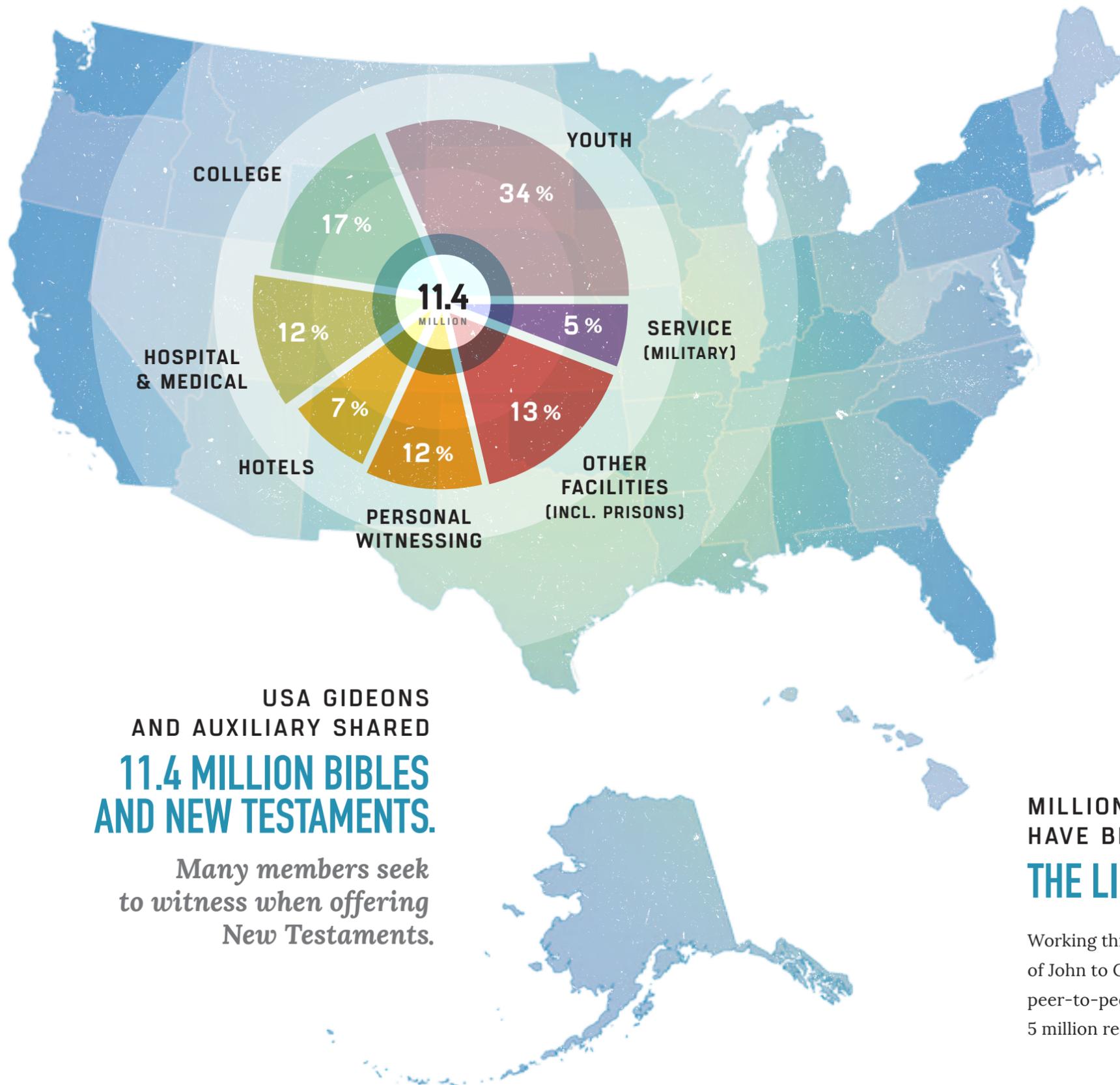
Most were handed out personally, one-to-one.

“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword...”
HEBREWS 4:12 (ESV)



THE USA IS NOW THE THIRD LARGEST MISSION FIELD IN THE WORLD.

USA SCRIPTURE DISTRIBUTIONS ARE INCREASING.



USA GIDEONS AND AUXILIARY SHARED
11.4 MILLION BIBLES AND NEW TESTAMENTS.

Many members seek to witness when offering New Testaments.

MORE THAN ONE MILLION REACHED THROUGH USA METRO SCRIPTURE BLITZES.

This past year, we conducted 14 Metro Scripture Blitzes, sharing New Testaments at prisons, hospitals, schools, and colleges.

Each Gideon state association annually plans blitzes in select cities, too.

Major USA Metro Scripture Blitzes:

JUNE 2015 - MAY 2016

CITY/STATE	SCRIPTURES DISTRIBUTED
NEW YORK, NY	243,000
FORT WORTH, TX	146,074
CHICAGO, IL	87,000
MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL, MN	82,671
CINCINNATI, OH	74,280
LOS ANGELES, CA	67,665
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO	60,545
DETROIT, MI	58,580
TULSA, OK	54,380
SEATTLE, WA	52,220
DURHAM/CHAPEL HILL, NC	42,125
BOSTON, MA	24,000
ATLANTA, GA	22,650
BUFFALO, NY	20,800
TOTAL:	1,035,990

MILLIONS OF USA STUDENTS HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY THE LIFE BOOK.

Working through church youth groups, we provide the Gospel of John to Christian high school students who share them, peer-to-peer, with fellow students who need the Lord. More than 5 million received The Life Book during the past 12 months alone.



GIVE SUPPORT IN REACHING THE LOST

Every person on earth
deserves the opportunity
to hear and receive the Gospel.

THE CHALLENGE FACING US TODAY: **WORLD POPULATION: 7.4 BILLION**

At least two-thirds do not know Jesus as Lord and Savior.

The world is hungry for the Good News, and through the work of the Holy Spirit, every witnessing experience and every copy of God's Word provided can impact a life for eternity.

In one-third of the 200 countries, territories, and possessions where The Gideons International is organized, yearly income (GDP) is so low people may never own, or even see, God's Word without our ongoing support.

"...there is joy before the angels of God
over one sinner who repents."

LUKE 15:10 (ESV)



PEOPLE NEED THE WORD OF GOD,

AND WE ARE SEEKING TO SHARE IT—
IN RECORD NUMBERS.

At any point in time, The Gideons International typically has requests for millions of Bibles and New Testaments in dozens of countries. We fill these orders as soon as donations are received to print and ship the Scriptures.

Many Gideons, Auxiliary, churches, and dedicated Christians regularly pray for the lost around the world and give generously to God's work through The Gideons International. They recognize that any gift, no matter how small, can impact a life for eternity.

Thank you for your ongoing prayers, support, and donations. God is truly blessing what you do as more people than ever before are receiving Bibles and New Testaments.



TORCHBEARERS LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY.

Last year, more than 7.2 million people were reached with God's Word through \$9.1 million in gifts from TorchBearers – members of The Gideons International and other donors who included The Gideons International in their estate plans. These TorchBearers helped touch these lives with the Gospel message through their wills, trusts, and beneficiary designations.

“No other investment will last for eternity like providing God's Word through The Gideons International. God's Word will change a heart for eternity. This is a way to do something good after we're gone.”

**GERALD AND NANCY GLICK,
MEMBERS OF THE GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL
FOR 41-PLUS YEARS**

THOSE WHO HAVE RECEIVED GOD'S WORD THANK YOU, LIKE MELONY, A FLIGHT ATTENDANT.

“I have been a flight attendant for almost 40 years. I have always counted on having the Gideon Bible in my hotel room—and have not been disappointed. I do not know if you have ever thought about the thousands of flight attendants you have ministered to in all these hotel rooms for all these years since aviation began. Having God's Word in each room is an amazing miracle and I, for one, cannot say, 'thank you' enough.

God has blessed your efforts and they have been such an inspiration to me. You have blessed countless flight attendants who have many 'homes' away from home and can always count on His Word to be there.”





DONORS CHOOSE MANY WAYS

TO SUPPORT THE DISTRIBUTION OF GOD'S WORD, INCLUDING:

- **EasyGiving:** Supporting the distribution of God's Word automatically from a bank account or credit card.
- **Donation of Items:** Contributing possessions no longer needed.
- **Memorial Tribute Gifts:** Donating God's Word "In Memory" of a loved one.
- **Endowed Gifts:** Investing in future evangelism of The Gideons International.
- **AmazonSmile:** Sharing God's Word when shopping online—at no additional cost.
- **Corporate Matched Giving:** Employers matching Gideon donations of employees and retirees.

ALSO:

- Gideon Charitable Gift Annuities, Charitable Remainder Trusts, and Charitable Lead Trusts.
- Real Estate donations, Stock donations, Donor-Advised Funds (DAF), and IRA Distributions.



LAST YEAR, 12.9 MILLION PEOPLE RECEIVED GOD'S WORD THROUGH GIDEONCARD DONATIONS.

GideonCards are unique Christian greeting cards people send to make Bible donations in honor of a loved one. GideonCards are available through the Gideon website at www.sendtheword.org.

“They are to do good, to be rich
in good works, to be generous
and ready to share.”

I TIMOTHY 6:18 (ESV)

This past year, Gideons in Germany were able to distribute 70,000 dual-language Scriptures to the many refugees entering their country.

A GIFT IN HIS LANGUAGE

“On Christmas Eve, we were standing in front of a refugee camp. There was a man who did not speak any German or English, and I could only hand him our German-Arabic Bible and show him that I wanted to give it to him.

“He recognized it was in his language and moved his hands from right to left to show me how they read. Then he laughed, pointed to the German language, and moved his hand in the opposite direction to show me he knows we read from left to right. He was very happy about the gift. I could see it in his eyes.

“I wonder what it is like for a man to be in a strange country and to receive a book – which is of great value in his culture – in his native language from a total stranger. I realized that it makes a difference for that one man to examine what is written in the Bible, which he never possessed before. We can only rely on God that his Word does not return to Him empty.”

GIDEON SCRIPTURE DISTRIBUTION IN GERMANY



THE GIDEON DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

HELPS PEOPLE SHARE GOD'S WORD.

The professionals of the development team at International Headquarters are available to answer questions related to donations to send God's Word. Their personal services are always complimentary.

PHONE: 615-564-5277 (M – F, 8:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M., CENTRAL TIME)

ON THE WEB: www.gideons.org/plannedgiving

EMAIL: development@gideons.org

We thank God for all of the generous supporters who pray for this ministry and those who give to help send God's Word around the world. You are touching the lives of so many who need to know the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior.



Dear Christian Friend,

Through God's blessing, we just concluded a record year in spreading the Good News! We praise the Lord for His watch care and favor on this ministry. As the Psalmist wrote in Psalm 9:1-2 (ESV), "I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High."

Faithfulness and stewardship have characterized The Gideons International since its inception in 1899. This Association remains faithful to God's call and direction in emphasizing its singular objective of winning others for Christ – while also observing a high level of stewardship by properly using the resources entrusted to it.

This past year clearly exemplifies that emphasis on stewardship. Those who support us in reaching the lost provided more funds to supply more Scriptures for the world than ever before in our 100-plus year history. While the annual increase in receipts was modest, Gideons and Auxiliary still shared 7 million more Scriptures than the previous year. A key factor in this substantial growth in distributions was realized through new cost reductions – getting more “bang for the buck.” We were able to cut costs in India, where we placed over 14 million Scriptures, and in Brazil, where we placed over 9 million copies of God's Word. With such high volumes in those two countries, we had the leverage to negotiate better pricing. We did the same in several other parts of the world.

Here are just some of the highlights of what God has accomplished this fiscal year. First and foremost, \$108 million in world Scripture receipts resulted in more than 91.8 million copies of God's Word impacting lives around the world. This growth was realized in a number of ways. The United States contributed a record \$33.9 million to the Faith Fund (donations designated for countries needing our financial support to receive Scriptures). USA church receipts reached \$27 million, a 4.3% increase over the previous year. Our GideonCard Christian greeting card program rose, providing \$16.1 million, and those desiring to include The Gideons International in their estate planning boosted legacy receipts to \$8.8 million.

In addition to the 91.8 million people receiving God's Word in the 200 countries, territories, and possessions where this Association is organized, over 5 million students in the USA were handed Life Books (book of John) from Christian friends, and 203,000 men, women, and children in the People's Republic of China received Scriptures. To God be the glory!

May the Lord continue to guide this Association and inspire the ongoing prayer and financial support of our members and donors as together we spread the Good News.

In Christ,

Allen J. Huth
International Treasurer

Asish K. Pradhan
Chief Financial Officer

A key factor in this substantial growth in distributions was realized through new cost reductions...

MINISTRY BEHIND BARS

It is Monday evening at the Henry County Corrections Facility in west Tennessee.

A cold, stainless steel table is cemented to the floor. On one side of the table, four inmates sit on stools. Other inmates stand off in the shadows. A Gideon shares God's plan of salvation. He finally asks the inmates, "Who here would like to know for certain where they will spend eternity?"

"...I was in prison and you came to me." **MATTHEW 25:36 (ESV)**



Anita and her husband, Jerry. As an Auxiliary and Gideon couple, both are regularly involved in sharing God's Word with inmates.

173 New Testaments placed by The Gideons International were waiting in the cells.

Gideons in Henry County, Tennessee first began visiting the local jail back in the 1970's. "It was very rough, much like conditions we see in jails in other countries," says Bob Bertouille. Bob was instrumental in organizing the first group of Gideons to visit the jail. "It was a rat's nest. You could not get inside, and you could only talk to inmates through the cell bars." Then, a change in administration and a new corrections facility helped turn things around. When the new jail opened, 173 New Testaments placed by The Gideons International were waiting in the cells.



Bob's wife, Madalyn, served in the Auxiliary and worked with female inmates. She spoke about the jail ministry with Anita Berry, a fellow Auxiliary. Madalyn asked Anita to make sure the ministry continued if she could no longer serve. Anita gave Madalyn her word she would. Months later, Madalyn went to be with the Lord. Bob asked Anita if she would pick up the jail ministry where his late wife had left off. Anita thought, "What am I going to do? I had promised Madalyn."

Jesus is already inside and ready to use them.

Despite initial apprehension, Anita kept her promise to Madalyn to keep the Auxiliary engaged in reaching female inmates. "It was really hard in the beginning," she says. "God is still building me. These women are forgotten; it is critical to reach them with the Gospel. They will take God's Word back to their families. In many cases, they will be the single parent raising a family. Without a life-transforming relationship with Christ, when they are released from jail, they will likely return to the same lifestyles that led to their incarceration."

Across the world, Gideons and Auxiliary are working with local chaplains to gain access to prisons and have been truly blessed by their experiences. While they arrive thinking they are bringing Jesus to these people, they quickly discover Jesus is already inside and ready to use them.



“Moreover, it is required
of stewards that they be
found faithful.”

1 CORINTHIANS 4:2 (ESV)

TWELVE YOUNG MEN SAVED IN BOLIVIA

During an International Scripture Blitz in Bolivia, Gideons visited one school where students filled the courtyard for a break. One Gideon took the opportunity of the gathering crowd to share about Jesus. At the end of his message, twelve students went through the plan of salvation printed in the back of their New Testaments. Then, each young man signed his own name signifying his acceptance of Christ.



FINANCIAL RESULTS

FOR SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS

God is blessing
the distribution
of His Word.

IN 2015–2016:

91.8 MILLION COPIES OF GOD'S WORD IN OVER 95 LANGUAGES WERE SHARED

ACROSS 200 COUNTRIES, TERRITORIES,
AND POSSESSIONS.

- 5 million copies of the Gospel of John were given to students by Christian schoolmates
- 8% increase in distributions over 2014-15
- \$108,029,913 in donations (.1% increase over 2014-15)

For more detailed information, go to: www.gideons.org/financials



STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2016

REVENUES

USA Contributions	\$93,614,815
USA Held at State & Local Level*	\$11,028,146
International Contributions	\$14,780,373
Dues Income	\$6,211,478
Investment Income	\$46,255
Merchandise Sales	\$2,035,569
Other Income	\$215,678
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	\$46,663
TOTAL REVENUES	\$127,978,977

EXPENSES

PROGRAM SERVICES

Scripture Purchases & Distribution	\$100,396,310
Membership Support & Development	\$10,128,804
State & Local Level*	\$11,865,098

TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES

\$122,390,212

SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES

Management & General	\$3,442,735
Fundraising	\$2,834,392

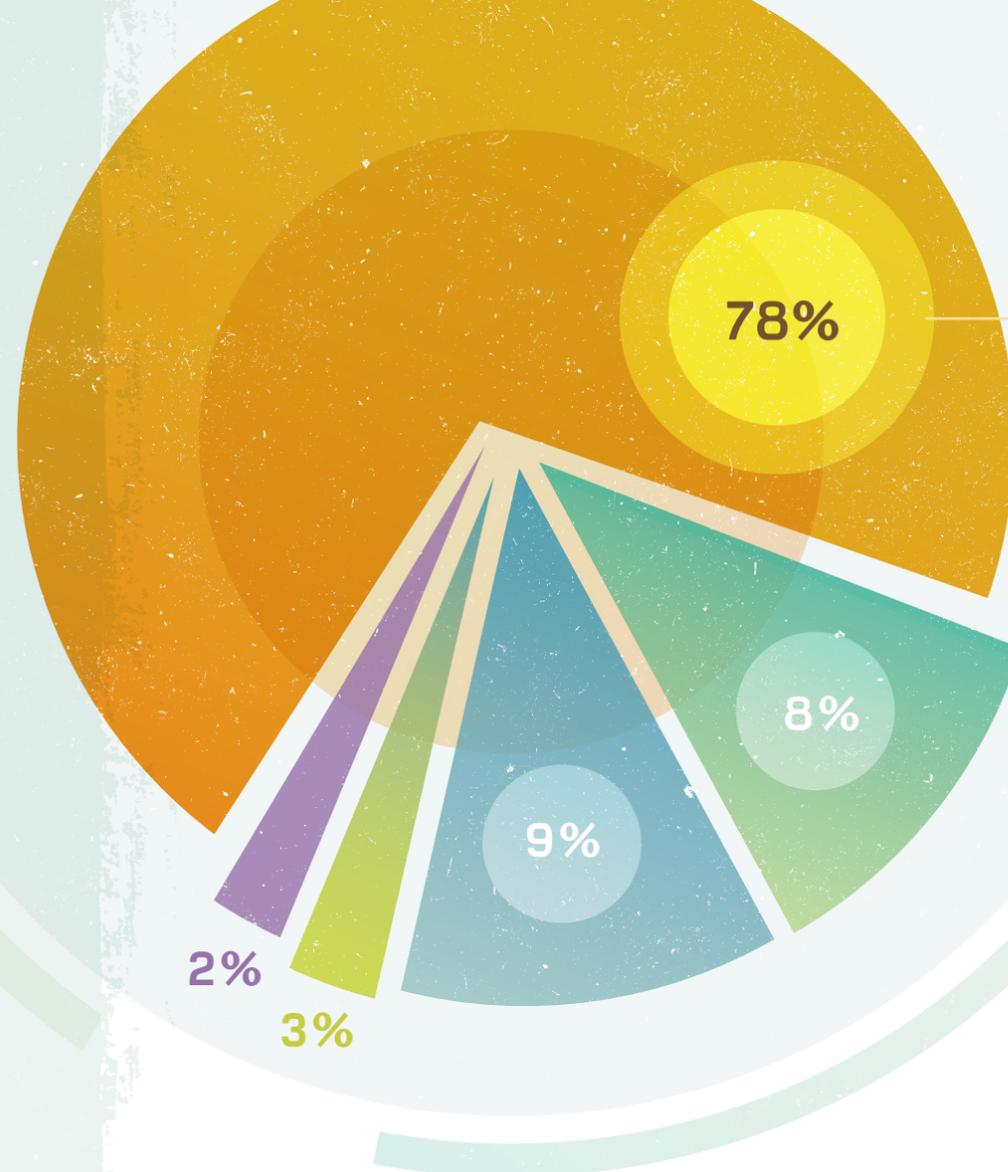
TOTAL SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES

\$6,277,127

OPERATING EXPENSES

Change in Net Assets from Operations	-\$688,362
Change in Net Assets FROM NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES	-\$43,142
Beginning-of-Year Net Assets	\$25,633,493
End-of-Year Net Assets	\$24,988,273

* Starting this year, State & Camp level Income & Expenses are included in Revenues, as well as Expenses of the Association.



OPERATING EXPENSES

2015-2016

Scripture Purchases & Distribution	\$100,396,310
Membership Support & Development	\$10,128,804
State & Local Level*	\$11,865,098
Management & General	\$3,442,735
Fundraising	\$2,834,392

* Starting this year, State & Camp level Income & Expenses are included in Revenues, as well as Expenses of the Association.

EXCERPT FROM 2016 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION, GO TO: WWW.GIDEONS.ORG/FINANCIALS

The Gideons International is also an accredited member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA).



Enhancing Trust



LEADERSHIP OF THE GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL

INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS

President: Dr. William E.G. Thomas Sheffield, UK
 Vice President: David W. Martin Tallahassee, FL
 Treasurer: Allen J. Huth Parker, CO
 Chaplain: James H. Duren Tuscaloosa, AL
 Secretary: Craig Warner Nashville, TN

INTERNATIONAL TRUSTEES

Australia: Trevor Monson
 British Isles: Geoff Mann
 Finland: Timo Taival
 Germany: Dr. Ralf Hille
 Japan: Katsutoshi Katagiri
 Norway: Kaare Nordpoll
 Republic of China (Taiwan): River Liu
 South Africa: Dr. Rudi Claassen
 South Korea: Woo Joon Lee
 Sweden: Johnny Albenius
 USA Zone 1: Mark McNett
 USA Zone 2: Dr. Richard Nicolai
 USA Zone 3: Mark D. Johnson
 USA Zone 4: Russell Jamison
 USA Zone 5: Dr. James C. Warner
 USA Zone 6: Joseph Nowlin
 USA Zone 7: Dr. Kim G. Powell
 USA Zone 8: Randy Crowe
 USA Zone 9: G. Michael DeWoody
 USA Zone 10: Richard A. Schwanger
 USA Zone 11: Steven Spurr
 USA Zone 12: Kevin Beal

INTERNATIONAL AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President: René Lucas Brandon, MS
 Vice President: Cindy Davis Warrensville, NC
 Chaplain: Debbie Rotunno Sun Valley, CA
 Secretary: Lynne Peterson San Jose, CA



WHAT IS THE TRUE VALUE OF ONE SCRIPTURE?

The financial value is small, but spiritually, a single New Testament can change one life for Christ – and that makes its value immeasurable.

Often, our Lord makes sure one New Testament impacts multiple lives.

ONE COPY OF GOD'S WORD TOUCHES A YOUNG SAILOR AND THEN MANY MORE PEOPLE.

Right out of high school, Michael Williams entered the Navy. His first mission was on a ballistic submarine, where he began thinking about the deep questions of life. Right then, a crewmate said, "I have a New Testament some Gideon gave me. Does anyone want it?"

Michael took that New Testament, read it, and found the answers to life. He then prayed to receive Christ. He later went to Bible school and seminary. Today, Michael teaches at a seminary. What a tremendous impact this one New Testament had – not just on Michael's life, but also on the lives of thousands he has taught.





LET'S SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS

Share God's Word with confidence
THROUGH THE GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL.

*Your donations will be used to help print
and send God's Word around the world.*

GIVE ANYTIME TO SHARE GOD'S WORD:

www.gideons.org/gift

DEVELOPMENT DIVISION CONTACT INFORMATION:

PHONE: 615-564-5277 (M - F, 8:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M., CENTRAL TIME)

EMAIL: development@gideons.org

WEBSITE: www.gideons.org/plannedgiving

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

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly..." **COLOSSIANS 3:16 (ESV)**

