

The purpose of this publication is to develop you, as a leader, by providing professional development tips to further your influence. Additionally, featured content is intended for camp presidents to share with members at monthly camp meetings, which will keep Gideons and Auxiliary well-informed about ministry activities.



INTRODUCING THE NEW MEMBER WELCOME PACKETS

Engaging new members is vital to a strong camp, which is vital to reaching others in your community for Christ. The New Member Package for new Gideons and Auxiliary will help lay a strong foundation as they begin their journey. The Welcome Package will now be mailed directly to the new member, so their onboarding experience can start without delay. An additional Sponsor Guide and reformatted New Member Celebration Guide will be mailed directly to the camp president. This will help a sponsor engage the new member as well as provide a way to recognize (celebrate) them at a camp meeting.

A personal call from IHQ will be made to each new member to welcome them along with a personalized welcome video emailed to the new member. Each of these elements are meant to help a new member feel equipped on their membership journey.

KEY DATES FOR GOAL-SETTING

Below is a list of important dates for camps to remember regarding goal-setting:

Jan 4—Goal planner opens online

Feb 7—Camp presidents lock goals

Feb 9—State presidents begin to finalize goals

Feb 28—State presidents lock goals

CAMP EXPERIENCE 2021 ENHANCEMENT

We are excited about the implementation of the 2021 Camp Experience materials in each camp. This year, we will place emphasis on three key areas of member development for each monthly topic: Spiritual Preparation, Business Skill Development, and Ministry Application. With this powerful training, we hope members feel supported and better equipped to follow where God leads as they serve in The Gideons International. The January topic is Great Meetings, presented by International President Allen J. Huth (Parker Camp, Colorado), and the February topic is Speaker Development, presented by Executive Director Dan Heighway (West Wilson Camp, Tennessee).



TIPS TO SIMPLIFY MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

In preparation for the Membership Renewal timeframe, consider the tips listed below to provide a safe and easy renewal experience for those in your camp. Please note that by renewing electronically, operational costs associated with the renewal process are reduced.

Renew Online

- Renew online by clicking on the Renew Membership Now button at the top of the homepage on *theConnection*.
- Autopay is a safe, secure, and convenient way for members to renew. Simply provide credit card or banking account information, and the payment will automatically draft from that card/account each year in February (until the expiration of the card). Members enrolled in Autopay will receive a reminder from International Headquarters in advance. To sign up for Autopay, log in on *theConnection*. At the top of the screen, you will see your name in blue print. Click on your name, and you will be taken to your Member Profile. On the left, click the option for Auto Payment, then complete the required fields on that form. We are asking interested members to please sign up for Autopay by February 8, 2021.
- Update credit card and/or account information. Encourage members who are already signed up to renew by Autopay to be sure the most updated account information is shown on *theConnection*. Expired cards, closed accounts, and numbers entered incorrectly will cause Autopay payments to fail.

Renew by Phone

Members may also renew by calling us toll-free at 866-262-4253 to speak to Membership Services. Members can conveniently pay using a debit card, credit card, or by providing account and routing numbers for their preferred checking account.

Renew by Mail

A membership renewal notice will be mailed in early March (followed by another in April) to members who are not signed up for Autopay or have not already paid by other means. Note it can take up to two weeks for a mailed payment to post. Payments should be mailed using the convenient, provided envelope.

Also, please encourage those in your camp to not include other correspondence with your renewal payment.

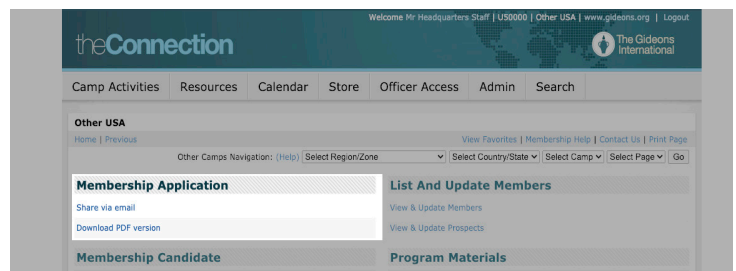
RELEASE OF NEW OPERATIONS MANUAL

Upon further review, the release of the new Operations Manual has been deferred pending approval by the Executive Committee and by the International Cabinet.

LOCATING THE ONLINE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The online membership application is a great new tool to help you enlist new members. Links to share or download the digital application are now located on the Membership Program page of *theConnection* as the first section.

MEMBERSHIP JOURNEY



To-date, more than 5,100 members have viewed the Membership Journey broadcasts. If you missed the opportunity to participate in the live broadcasts, you can still gain important insights from watching the Membership Journey broadcast replays. Simply click the Membership Journey banner on *theConnection*.



FAITH FUND SUCCESS



Zelalem was born in a Muslim family in Ethiopia. When she was a child, she witnessed the death of a woman that led her to develop abnormal fear of being left alone. Her fear led to regular hallucinations. Her parents took her to a Muslim Imam for prayers and deliverance but that did not help. Not long after, while searching for prayer books in her father's belongings, she saw a small book, which she later learned was a Testament given to him by a Gideon when he was in school. Zelalem had never seen her father or anyone else in the family read or even hold the Testament but as she started reading it, she finally felt peace with no fear.

Once while she was in the house, she heard her family talking about some relief workers who had come to the village. When they talked about their religion it caught her attention and she asked her family to take her to them. Her family refused to take her and forbade her from going as the relief workers were not Muslim. Curious to know about those people, she kept looking for someone to take her and finally her cousin agreed.

When she and her cousin arrived, they learned the relief workers were Christians and they gave Bible lessons after distributing relief goods. Zelalem was captivated by the words they were teaching as they were the same words she had read in her father's Testament. At the end of the meeting, she talked with them and made her decision to accept Jesus Christ as her Lord and personal Savior.

Today more than 25 family members, including her mother and sisters, have come to know and accept Jesus Christ through her influence. She is a singer and also serves in her local church.

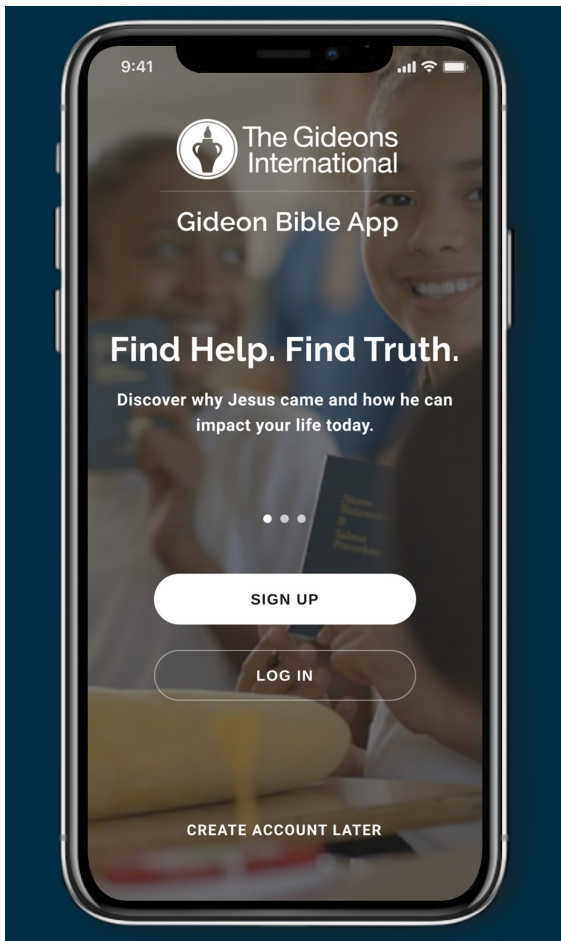
NOW AVAILABLE: GIDEON AND AUXILIARY MASKS

Cloth face masks are now part of the corporate apparel available to members. These feature appropriate logos (Gideon or Auxiliary) and can be purchased for \$6 each through the Store on *theConnection* (click the Corporate Apparel link).



The Gideons
International

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GIDEON BIBLE APP 2.0 - COMING FEBRUARY

God has used the Gideon Bible App in a powerful way to help Gideons and Auxiliary share the Gospel. The updated app will include several new features serving as a true digital Personal Workers Testament...here is what members will find:

- A new, easy-to-use interface
- Easier access to supplemental portions of our Personal Workers Testaments, including the Helps and Follow Christ sections
- Ability to create an account and save personalized notes and highlights
- The same great language and audio features for reading and listening to the Bible

Beginning February 2021, download the Gideon Bible App 2.0 from the App Store or Google Play and encourage your camp members to do the same. We pray this app continues to aid you and other members in your camp in sharing the most remarkable story ever told with men, women, boys, and girls worldwide.