

# GIDEON MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

## SPIRITUAL

1. He must believe the Bible to be the inspired, infallible, inerrant Word of God.
2. He must believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the eternal Son of God.
3. He must have received Christ as his personal Savior.
4. He must endeavor to follow Christ in his daily life.
5. He must believe in the endless lake of fire for the unsaved (Rev. 20:10, 14-15).
6. He must accept the Biblical standard of marriage being between one man and one woman? (Genesis 2:24)
7. He must be a member in good standing of a protestant or evangelical church and have the recommendation of his pastor.
8. He must not be, nor have been within five years, a clergyman, pastor, missionary, ordained minister, or hold himself out as such, or be recognized as such.

## OCCUPATIONAL

### **1. Businessman**

A man may be a proprietor, partner, executive, officer, manager, supervisor, sales representative (not retail clerk), buyer, agent, adjuster, or contractor. A proprietor in the business of buying and selling goods in an established place of business does not have to have any employees; however, if he is in a service business (examples may include mechanic, janitorial service, pest control, roofer, carpenter, etc.), he must have two or more employees in order to qualify. Management and supervisory businessmen who are not proprietors must have at least two employees under their supervision.

### **2. Businessman Farmer**

A man whose primary source of income is from a major farming operation and whose full time vocation is farming is considered a businessman farmer and qualifies for Gideon membership. However, a businessman farmer whose primary source of income is derived from tobacco production is not qualified.

### **3. Professional**

A man who has a four-year college degree or above and is in any of the vocations shown on the membership application is considered a professional and qualifies to be a Gideon.

### **4. Institutional**

A man who is the manager or administrator of a public service institution,(e.g., educational institutions, governmental agencies, counseling services, etc.) and who supervises two or more people, or who has a four year college degree, qualifies for Gideon membership.

A member of the armed forces who holds a rank or grade of E-5 or above qualifies for Gideon membership. Also, civilian staff officers of emergency service agencies (police, fire, etc.) with a rank of sergeant or above qualify to be Gideons.

USA government service employees with a grade of GS-7 or above, and equivalent in other countries, qualify for membership.

Airline and ship captains and first officers as well as railroad conductors and engineers also qualify for membership in the Gideons.

### **5. Other**

A man who has a four-year college degree, or supervises two or more people, and who is employed in an occupation that defines him as a business or professional man but does not fit within the above categories will qualify for Gideon membership.

**NOTE:** A man who has retired from any of the above categories qualifies for Gideon membership