

Gideon Spiritual Objectives

By Wally Purdun

Men and Women of Faith

- Clarifies our posture of certainty, hope, and trust. This is not based on our circumstances but on faith in the character and the ongoing work of God.
- Our faith is based on the firm foundation of the truths of God's word. The testimony of others and our own experience of our personal relationship with Him.

Men and Women of Faith

- **Certainty:** Faith fuels our confidence in God's power and plan even when the circumstances seem to refute them.
- **Trust:** Where faith is put to the test. When we act on what we believe, we demonstrate our faith. We don't simply believe that God exists. We trust that God is willing and desires to use us in his work.
- **Hope:** We respond to disappointment differently because we are buoyed by our faith. We experience the same disappointments of non-believers but our faith brings us through and enables us to look beyond.

Men and Women of Faith

We demonstrate it by:

- Stepping into open doors, trusting in God's provision
- Walking into unfamiliar situations to share the Word
- Holding the course when the way is hard, but the calling is clear
- Resting on and seeking God's direction,
rather than relying on our own strengths.

Men and Women of Faith

- **Hebrews 11:1-3**

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.”

Men and Women of the Book

- The Bible is associated with the Gideons because we are regularly seen distributing it.
- We seek God's word as a primary resource in our lives. It abides in us as a constant source of guidance, peace, and direction.
- We believe the Bible is the inspired, infallible, and inerrant Word of God, and we recognize its ultimate authority and power in our lives and in the lives of those we share it with.
- This runs in direct conflict with the counter-culture of today that advances the culture of many truths, where men and women can choose their preferred truths from many different ideas.

Men and Women of the Book

- Personally reading the Scriptures regularly
- Read Scriptures together
- Memorize Scripture so that it becomes ingrained in our daily thinking
- **James 1:22-25**
- “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.”

Men and Women of Prayer

- We as Gideons recognize the power of prayer. And we engage in it constantly. We believe prayer is how to communicate with God.
- We believe prayer is a two-way communication. When we pray, we can express our praise, our needs, worship, and allegiance to our Heavenly Father. We can also receive God's guidance, encouragement, and direction.
- Having a prayer connection is vital in our personal relationship with God.
- We are Men and Women of Prayer. We believe prayer is not something just to be engaged in occasionally but something we engage in constantly. We pray without ceasing and abide in Christ as he abides in us.

Men and Women of Prayer

- **We pray:**
 - For open doors and opportunities to share the gospel
 - Praying for safety of the members traveling
 - Participate in church and camp prayer meetings
- **Ephesians 6:18**
 - “Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints.”

Gideon Spiritual Objectives

- **Isaiah 55:11 (ESV)**

“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.”