

Gideons Celebrate 100 Years of Bible Distribution

[] Celebrating its 100-year anniversary, the Gideons International, founded by John Nicholson and Sam Hill, distributed an astounding 1.5 *billion* Bibles since 1908, when

the group began placing Scripture in hotel rooms reports the Associated Press (AP).

"I think there's an untold number of people that have had their lives changed as a result of

reading the Gideon Bible or New Testament," said Steve Smith, director of communications and development for the Gideons to the AP.

"We've been blessed to learn the details of many of those and are confident there are still many more we have not yet learned about."

Last year alone the interdenominational ministry gave out nearly 77 million Gideon Scriptures, translated into 85 languages in

187 countries around the world. "What it's done is actually changed our culture," Leith Anderson, president of the National

Association of Evangelicals said to the AP. "People expect there to

be a Bible in a hotel room. There's hardly anything that's parallel to it."