"If Bibles were used as much as toilet paper, then this world would be a lot cleaner."

## Toilet Paper and The Bible

There are two items that I can count on being in every hotel, motel and hospital room. These items were specifically placed there to promote their use not only in these rooms but also at home. Yes, I have used them both while in these rooms, at work and at home.

Before toilet paper, the most common solution was simply to grab what was at hand: coconuts, shells, snow, moss, hay, leaves, grass, corncobs, and sheep's wool. Later, thanks to the printing press, we used newspapers, magazines, and pages of books. Toilet paper took a major leap forward in 1890, when two brothers named Clarence and E. Irvin Scott popularized the concept of paper for this purpose on a roll. It was an uphill battle to get the public to openly buy the product, largely because Americans remained embarrassed by bodily functions. So, the Scotts' decided to put toilet paper in hotels. Soon guests fell in love with the soft, easy to use and dispose of cleaning tissue. Today you can find it in every home and business. Currently, the United States spends more than \$6 billion a year on toilet tissue with an average American using 50 lbs. a year. Toilet Paper History: How America Convinced the World to Wipe

At the same time as toilet paper was being placed in hotel's, the Gideons International began placing Bibles in the same rooms. "The Bible Project" was adopted by them in Louisville, in 1908. While they are often recognized for their work with hotels, they also place and distribute Scriptures in strategic locations so they are available to those who want them, as well as to those who may not know they need them. Through the grace of God and through the loving support of the local church and countless donors, more than 2 billion Bibles and New Testaments have been placed through the Association. It has been reported that on the average 25% of the people who check into a room reads the Bible placed there by the Gideons. This means that each hotel Bible is read by an average of 2,500 people over a six-year period.

The first Bible, I started reading was a pocket size Gideon New Testament. I remember the tears and excitement as I understood for the first time that Jesus died for my sins. While squeezing that red cover Bible, I asked the Lord to forgive me of my sins and to become my Lord and Savior. I still have it to remind me of how the Lord use it to cleanse my life.

No, I did not keep my first roll of toilet paper.



There are videos on YouTube about lives changed with these Bibles.

## Charles L Stambaugh Mt Wolf, PA

"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success." Joshua 1:9



You will have the same message when you stop reading the Bible.

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