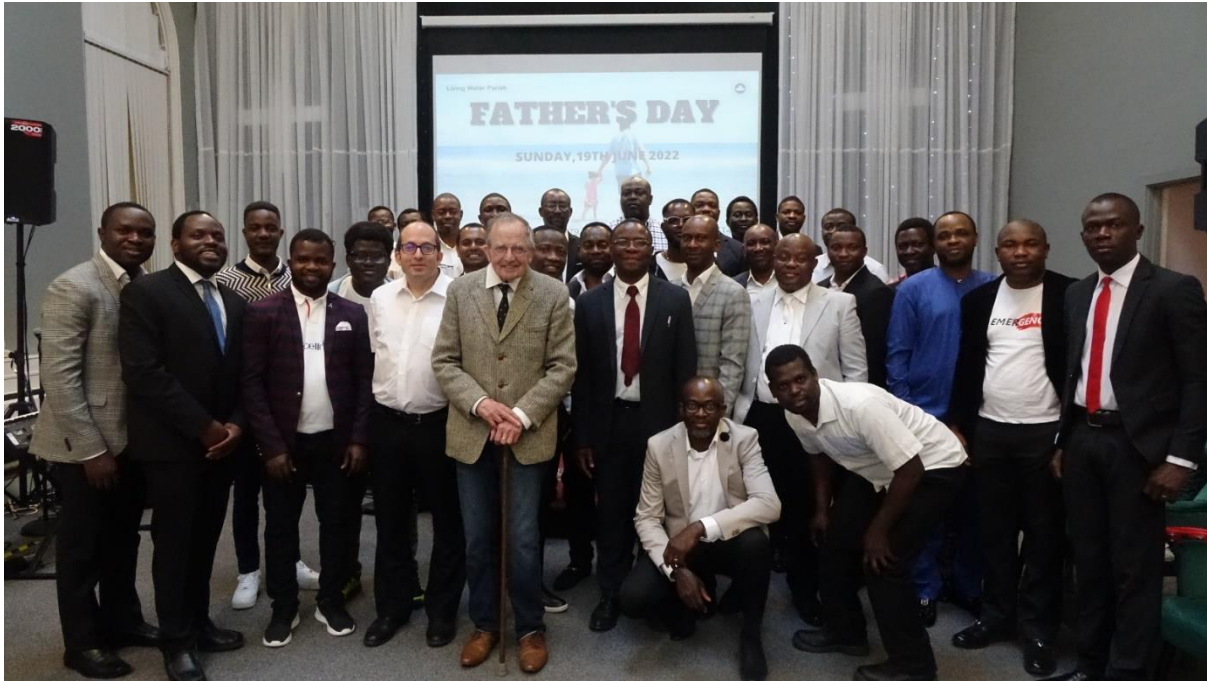




RCCG LIVING WATER PARISH, STOKE-ON-TRENT

GIDEON'S ARMY



**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP
(GIDEON'S ARMY)
GUIDELINES**

MINISTRY TO MEN IN THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

AS IRON SHARPENS IRON, SO ONE MAN SHARPENS ANOTHER.

-PROV. 27:17

The Redeemed Christian Church of God

Living Water Parish

Redemption Community Hub

The Herbert Minton Building

79 London Road

Stoke-on-Trent

ST4 7QE



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Man's Relationship

Relationship targets four main areas of a man's life:

1. **Man's relationship with God:** developing a spiritual understanding of God and His will for Men's life.
2. **Man's relationship with himself:** developing an understanding of self-awareness.
3. **Man's relationship with others:** developing an understanding of a man's relationship with others in his life.
4. **Man's relationship to the community:** developing an understanding of a man's responsibilities to his community.



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1. Statement of Identity

The New Man in Christ (2 Cor 5:17) needs to be established in his faith, hence the process of building a man into a stronger relationship with Jesus Christ and other Christian men is vital.

All men who follow Jesus are called to grow spiritually through the practice of various Christian habits (or “means of grace”) such as prayer, Bible study, private and corporate worship, acts of service, Christian conferencing, and so on. Jesus taught his disciples practices of spiritual growth and leadership that will be a model for others. As members of the congregation grow through the means of grace, they will assume their own role in ministry and help others in the same way. This is the cycle of making disciples.

The following are the statement of identity of the LWP Gideon's Army:

- We are a gathering of God-fearing men who believe utterly in the redeeming power of the sacrifice of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ.
- We count ourselves blessed to have received the heavenly calling and we answer yes to our heavenly father.
- We do not take lightly the race that is set before us or the challenges that may beset us on the way.
- We hold in absolute high esteem the crown and reward that awaits us in His Kingdom.
- Therefore, we have come together to strengthen and sharpen each other. Though the road is long and rough, our victory is certain.



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2. Vision, Mission, and Call

Our vision is to create a forum where men within and out of RCCG Living Water Parish can become transformational agents in the church and surrounding communities by:

Supporting church projects.

Working together for the common good of all in our communities.

Supporting other men.

Praying together with other men.

Aid the welfare of members.

Our Mission is to declare the centrality of Christ in every man's life, which leads to the spiritual growth of men and effective discipleship.

The purpose and mission are served as men are called to model the servant leadership of Jesus Christ.

Our Call is to personal holiness and social holiness which refers to spiritual disciplines of prayer, study of the scriptures, fasting, worship, fellowship, and mediation.

We are called to participate in these disciplines because they bring us closer to Christ, and the practices convict us to engage in social holiness, acts of mercy, justice, and peace.

3. Membership

The membership of the group will be automatically by virtue of being a married man who is a member of RCCG Living Water Parish.

Concessionary membership can be granted by the Leadership team to other men who may not be married, such as mature single men, single fathers, and widowers. Such people may partake only in activities that are relevant and beneficial to them.



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4. Areas of Focus

- 4.1. Develop principled Christian leaders for the church and the community.
- 4.2. Create a lively atmosphere for visiting men and revitalize existing congregations.
- 4.3. Enhance evangelism, mission, and spiritual endeavours as men become servant leaders.
- 4.4. Forge pastoral partnerships by men committed to the effective support and service of clergy and local congregations.
- 4.5. Enhance organisational strength by effective leadership resources, membership growth and financial accountability.
- 4.6. Assist men in their ever-changing relationships, roles and responsibilities in their family setting, workplace, and society.
- 4.7. Cultivate leadership among men for a policy of no tolerance of physical or sexual harassment and abuse in the homes and church; and extending to the workplace, and society. Such practices are immoral and unacceptable by Biblical standards.
- 4.8. Understand the organisation, doctrines and beliefs of Living Water Parish.
- 4.9. Engage in volunteering and providing welfare of ministering of the poor.
- 4.10. Combat poverty by improving health and wealth within the parish, local community and globally.

5. Leadership Team

- Leader/Co-ordinator - Chris Efefaro
- Secretary/Deputy Leader - Tolu Olarewaju
- Financial Secretary/Treasurer - Patrick Olajide
- Event's Organiser/Organising Committee - Makpa Tanze

6. Meetings

- Natural groups (Men's Fellowship) meets once a month on the first Sunday of every month.
- Monthly prayer meetings to be held on the last Saturday of every month or as agreed at meetings.
- Special meetings to be convened whenever required by the leadership team.



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7. Finances

- Members pay monthly dues of £10 per month.
- Individual contributions toward various projects as they come up (minimum as decided by the leadership team or organising committee).
- Gift to any new birth - £30.
- Support for bereavement in the immediate family i.e., father, mother, wife and children - £200.
- Gift for relocating members £20 if we are officially notified and if such a member is financially committed.
- Support for any misfortune is to be deliberated by the leadership team.

8. Conflict Resolution

Conflicts within members are to be handled by the leadership team and matters they are unable to resolve should be escalated to the Pastor and ministerial team.

9. Appointment/Dissolution of Leadership Team

- Appointment of members of the leadership team would be by popular vote.
- However, appointment can also be made executively; appointment can also be overruled by the pastoral office.
- Tenure of 2 years with possibility of renewal for maximum of another 2 years.
- Members of the executive can be relieved of their responsibility by popular vote or by the pastor. This can be due to issues such as breach of trust or failure to carry out responsibility despite attempts to address the failings.
- Dissolution of the entire leadership team can only be carried out by the pastor.

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