

INVESTING IN ETERNITY

**BILLY
GRAHAM**
Evangelistic Association
Always Good News.

Donor Ministries
1 Billy Graham Parkway
Charlotte, NC 28201-0001

Telephone: 1-877-2GRAHAM
(1-877-247-2426)
BillyGraham.org
Email: donor-ministries@bgea.org

WILLS



INVESTING IN ETERNITY

**BILLY
GRAHAM**
Evangelistic Association
Always Good News.

WILLS

Taking steps for those you love

Today millions of men, women, and children around the world are living without hope, and we share your passion to reach them with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Just as there are many ways to share the Gospel message, there are many ways you can partner with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA) in this life-changing work.

Did you know that your will could be an ideal way to transform lives well beyond your years? Whether creating a will for the first time or updating one already in place, you may be surprised at how simple it can be to show your love for your family—and share God's love with the lost.

Writing a will is easy

Many people put off writing a will because they think it is complicated. Actually, the steps are quite simple.

First, contact an attorney today. Don't wait until tomorrow; writing a will is too important to delay.

Second, give your attorney directions on how you want your property distributed. (The [Will Information Worksheet](#) can help guide you through this.)

Third, your attorney will prepare a will. Read over it carefully to make sure it says *exactly* what you want it to say. Sign it and put it in a safe place. Your will remains in effect until you die or revise it.

Your personal representative

One of the most important steps in preparing your will is to name a personal representative (executor).

A personal representative is a person, bank, or trust company entrusted with managing and settling your estate, as directed in your will. Be sure to name the personal representative in your will. He or she will protect the interests of your beneficiaries, meet the tax and legal requirements, determine creditors' rights and the authenticity of claims, and exercise prudent investment judgment.

How do you choose a personal representative? It is important to select a qualified individual. You want to choose someone you trust who is capable of carrying out the instructions in your will.

Because there are a number of required duties for a personal representative, it is a good idea to ask the person whether he or she would be willing to accept these responsibilities.

A will is an important, yet often overlooked, aspect of wise stewardship.

Usually there are no restrictions on choosing a personal representative. Some states, however, may specify that a nonresident cannot serve in this capacity unless he or she is a close relative. Remember to consult your attorney regarding state laws.

To make the job easier for your personal representative, keep a list of all your property, debts, and records, and their locations. Store it with other important papers. Review the list periodically, and change it as often as necessary.

Be sure your personal representative can find the information easily. You may wish to share a copy of [Information for Your Personal Representative](#).

Reviewing your will

Every few years, as circumstances change, you should review the terms of your will. Changing a will is not complicated. Your attorney can assist you with the revisions.

Your will should reflect new or changing family situations. Be sure to consider events such as marriage, divorce, death of a spouse or child, birth or adoption of a child, birth of a grandchild, and children reaching adulthood.

You may also wish to take into account starting a new business, moving to another state, and your retirement.

Other factors that may affect your will include the purchase or termination of a life insurance policy, accepting a substantial inheritance or gift, desiring to make sizable

charitable gifts, or acquiring real estate (especially in a state other than your state of residence).

Make an everlasting investment

If you would like to help us take the Good News to the ends of the earth, we encourage you to include the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association in your will. By doing so, you are making an investment in reaching people with the eternal hope of Jesus Christ.

Through your will, you can make a gift to BGEA in one of the following ways:

A SPECIFIC AMOUNT:

“The sum of _____ dollars
(\$ _____).”

A SPECIFIC ASSET:

“Securities (or other property)
described as follows:
_____.”

In addition to caring for your family, you can also help make a way for people across the globe to hear the lifesaving message of Jesus.

A PERCENTAGE OF YOUR ESTATE:

“ _____ percent of my estate.”

THE REMAINDER OF YOUR ESTATE:

“All the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate ...”

These examples are suggestions only; the actual form of bequest should be determined in consultation with your attorney.

You may use the following name and address to properly identify BGEA in your will:

**Billy Graham Evangelistic Association
1 Billy Graham Parkway
Charlotte, NC 28201-0001**

BGEA is a nonprofit corporation and is qualified for tax exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. BGEA's tax identification number is 45-2588350.



Where there's a will there's a way

A will gives you the peace of mind that comes from knowing your estate will be handled exactly as you desire. In addition to caring for your family, you can also help make a way for people across the globe to hear the lifesaving message of Jesus Christ by including BGEA in your will. If you would like more information about partnering with us in the eternal work of the Gospel, call us toll-free at 1-877-2GRAHAM (1-877-247-2426).

The purpose of this publication is to provide information of a general nature only. For specific legal advice and assistance, you should contact your own attorney.

Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA) is audited annually by an independent public accounting firm. Descriptions of BGEA's programs and activities, and its audited financial statement, are available upon request. Contributions are solicited with the understanding that BGEA has complete control over the use of all donated funds.

REGISTRATION WITH A STATE DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY SUCH STATE. For Virginia residents, a financial statement is available upon request from the State Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. West Virginia residents may obtain information by writing the Secretary of State, the State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305.

All gifts are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law. Our Board-approved policy is that all gifts designated for a specific project be applied to the project, with up to 10 percent used for administrative and fund-raising expenses. Occasionally we receive more contributions for a given project than can be wisely applied to that project. When that happens, we use these funds to meet a similar pressing need. We do not provide goods or services in consideration for contributions. BGEA is a charter member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA).

