



TRAINING GUIDE

- **Members**
- **Chapters**
- **Groups**

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His Banner Over Us Is Love

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HOW FGBMFI BEGAN

Our founder, Demos Shakarian was a successful dairyman in Downey, California. He sponsored many evangelistic meetings in the 1950s. It is estimated that a million people attended those meetings.

He had a growing desire that business people would find Christ. Since almost all of the business people of that era were men, he began FGBMFI directed towards men. Today, many business people are ladies. FGBMFI is changing to accommodate both men and ladies.

After trying and seemingly failing, He was deep in prayer. In the middle of the night as he prayed kneeling on the Persian carpet in his living room. He received a heavenly Vision. This Vision propels FGBMFI. Today, we are the largest Christian business organization in the world.

“The Vision” as told by Demos Shakarian (1952)

“I am the One who alone can open doors; I am the One who removes the beam from unseeing eyes.”

The atmosphere grew brighter, to my amazement the ceiling of the room seemed to have disappeared. The cream-colored plaster, the ceiling light – they were simply gone, and instead I found myself staring up into the sky, a daytime sky although outside it must have been pitch dark.

My son, I knew you before you were born. I have guided you every step of the way. Now I am going to show you the purpose of your life.

Although I remained on my knees, I felt as if I were rising. Leaving my body. Moving up, away from the living room. Down below me I could see the rooftops of Downey. There were the San Bernardino Mountains, and over there the coast of the Pacific. Now I was high above the earth, able to see the entire country from west to east.

But though I could see so far, I could also see people on the earth – millions and millions of them standing shoulder to shoulder. Then, just as a camera can zoom in at a football game to show first the stadium, then the players, then the very laces on the football, my vision seemed to move in on these millions. I could see tiny details of thousands and thousands of faces. **This is now!**

And what I saw terrified me. The faces were set, lifeless, and miserable. Though the people stood so close together, shoulders touching, there was no real contact between them. They stared straight ahead, unblinking, unseeing. What a shudder of horror, I realized that they were dead...

The vision changed. Whether the world was turning, or whether I was traveling around it, I didn't know. But now beneath me was the continent of South America. Then on to Africa, Europe, Asia. Once more the startling close-ups occurred, and everywhere it was the same. Brown faces, black faces – every one rigid, wretched, each locked in his own private death.

“Lord!” I cried, “What’s the matter with them! Lord, help them!”

My son, what you see next is going to happen very soon. **This is the future!**

The earth was turning – or I was moving around it – a second time. Below me again were millions upon millions of men. But what a difference! This time heads were raised. Eyes shone with joy. Hands were lifted towards heaven. These who had been so isolated, each in his prison of self, were linked in a community of love and adoration. Asia, Africa, America – everywhere – death had turned to life.

And the Vision was over. I felt myself returning to earth...”

HIS BANNER OVER US IS LOVE

STARTING IS EASY AS A — B — C

A.

SETTLE IN YOUR HEART

That you will be the light of Christ in the marketplace.

Just look around you and see the many near you who are held captive by doubt, discouragement and despair.

Know that your life and testimony will set the captive free and produce Eternal Glory for God.

B.

RECEIVE

Information on how to begin. A Chapter or Group Starter Kit of basic resources may be purchased from our International Headquarters. You will receive the kit by return mail. Call +1 281.404.2656 or email: info@fgbmfi.org

C.

REGISTER

Use the forms in the kit and register for a chapter or fellowship group.

Note:

God does not need large numbers to launch His work. He only needs a faithful few in each place.

You are not alone — we use a buddy system. This means one of our leaders will help you to succeed.

HIS BANNER OVER US IS LOVE

Name Your Chapter or Group

A.

Name your chapter or your FGBMFI Fellowship group

Include the initials FGBMFI in your name. It may be at the end, and it may be in smaller letters.

B.

Do not use any religious words or symbols in your name.

C.

Sample names:

The Wall Street Chapter FGBMFI

The Empire State Building Group FGBMFI

West Side Detroit FGBMFI

123 Elm Street FGBMFI

President's Conference Room, City Bank FGBMFI

Tuesday Empowerment Group FGBMFI

Wednesday Networking Group FGBMFI

Where Do We Meet?

We meet at the same location every week!

IN RESTAURANTS

Many restaurants have a private area.

They are glad to allow you to use it for your meeting.

For breakfast

For lunch

For dinner

For coffee or tea time

IN THE OFFICE

In the cafeteria

In the lunch room

In the break room

In the board room

In a large office

In your office

In the recreational area

LOCATIONS OF COMMON INTEREST

Golf club house

Tennis club house

On the beach with other surfers

At the local coffee house

LARGE BANQUETS

Periodically your Group or Chapter may present...

A large evening gathering

A mayor's breakfast

A city fireman's breakfast

Note: Our chapters and fellowship groups meet everywhere except churches. We are attracting people from the marketplace who may not be comfortable in a church.

When Do We Meet?

We meet at THE SAME PLACE, at THE SAME TIME, on THE SAME DAY of the week. EVERY WEEK!

A.

We meet EVERY WEEK!

B.

We meet at the same time.

C.

We meet the same day of the week.

For example:

A group might meet every Wednesday for lunch.

Another might meet every Tuesday for tea.

Another might meet every Saturday for breakfast.

Another might meet every Saturday night for dinner.

Whatever the time, the consistency of time and place is important.

Note:

As our Leadership expands, we prefer at least 5 different Chapter Groups meeting in the same section of town every week.

In this way you can invite a friend or associate to a meeting every day.

Monday Lunch, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and perhaps a Saturday breakfast!

How Do We Grow?

We don't advertise — we personally invite!

A.

The Personal Invitation

INVITE! INVITE! INVITE!

Thousands of people are finding Christ each year, because our members invited them to a breakfast or lunch. Of course, it was a chapter meeting.

Invite the salesman that comes to sell you something.

Invite a co-worker

Invite a casual acquaintance

Invite someone that needs encouragement

Invite someone who is lost

INVITE! INVITE! INVITE!

B.

Invite by email.

You can also invite by emailing your friends and associates.

Collect the emails from each meeting.

Prepare a master email list.

Emails are never to be given to another individual, ministry or company.

A full copy of all Chapter emails is to be given to the International Headquarters.

The emails must be kept confidential. They are not for personal or other use.

C.

Invite by business card.

Keep it general, not religious. No Christian Symbols, Please!

Invite people to get acquainted with new business friends.

An uplifting talk from a business friend.

State your meeting location, time, and that the meeting is every week.

Note:

The invitations should never be religious. Never use religious words. You are only inviting them to go with you for breakfast, lunch, teatime, dinner or a networking meeting.

Your Chapter can start a website and link into the International Headquarters website.

His Banner Over Us Is Love **How to Invite?**

A.

The best invitation is to bring your business friend to lunch...as your guest!

Buying his or her lunch may turn out to be an eternal investment.

In inviting someone, we only say: “We are going to have lunch with several new business acquaintances.”

B.

“Our meeting of Business people features a successful business person.”

That’s about the extent of the invitation.

Some have later said, “Thank you for not describing the meeting or I would not have been interested. I would have missed so much. I would have missed My Better Life!”

C.

Important Business Language

When you say = People Hear the Following!

You are my Guest = A Free Lunch!

A Business Lunch = New Friends, New Customers, and More Business.

A Better Life = More Money, Better Things, More Fun.

A Success Story = possibly a “Good Idea” in there for me.

A Group of Successful People = Now let ME in!

That’s irresistible “Bait” for the marketplace.

Remember

His Banner over us is Love!

The Meeting Program

Our programs are Christ centered, without being religious.

The program is short, so stay on message.

Our message is “**A New and Better Kind of Life**”

We are “TELLING OUR STORY”.

We are living in a “REALITY” age, so be real!

It is the reliving of a REALITY EXPERIENCE!

We are dealing with people, from many backgrounds in the marketplace.

Some of these are angry at religion, but not at Jesus!

Our meetings should not resemble a church meeting.

The Program Is Easy as A - B - C

A.

Our Chapter Speakers

All of our speakers are men and women from the marketplace.

They are executives, secretaries, line workers, professionals, owners of businesses, accountants, educators, computer operators, young people, sales people and others. Yes, they are ordinary people from the marketplace.

They tell of their personal experience of a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ.

B.

The Meeting

Keep the meeting very simple

Remember, it is centered around one or more testimonies that have been prayed over and prepared.

- 1) Open with a quick welcome
“We welcome our first time guests. We are part of an important organization with Chapters like this in 150 nations of the world. Our purpose is to tell about a better life. I know you will enjoy yourself.”
- 2) Invite the 1st time guests to quickly give their name, the name of their business, and who invited them. They may leave business cards on the back table. (no speeches)

- 3) Be very careful; **DO NOT LOSE CONTROL OF THE MEETING.**
- 4) Treat it like a meeting
 - a. Delay any questions until the meeting has closed
 - b. Do not allow any disruptive talking
 - c. Share the Vision of our Organization
 - d. The entire opening portion is less than 5 minutes
- 5) Prayer and offering envelopes are placed in the center of each table. During the meeting, people are encouraged to write down their prayer requests. Offerings are also placed within the envelope. (Explanation below) Members should lead the way with their giving.
- 6) The Chapter Speaker
 - a. The chapter speakers are always ordinary men and women. We do not use ministers in chapters. Our desire is to reach the un-churched and we do not want to sanction one denomination or group over another.
 - b. Properly introduce the speaker; give their name, who they are in business and welcome them with applause.
 - c. Properly instruct your speaker concerning:
 - i. Time Limits (When they must stop!)
 - ii. The content of their speech; a little about their business —their life before Christ (plenty of humor) — the Jesus moment when they found Christ — the improvement Christ has made in their life, family, and business.
 - iii. The purpose is to bring **A BETTER LIFE THROUGH CHRIST.**
 - iv. The speaker may or may not ask everyone in the room to repeat the prayer.
 - v. Let them know in advance, NO WRITTEN SPEECHES!

C.

The Conclusion

After the testimony, collect the prayer and offering envelopes that have been on the table. Pray for the prayer requests (without opening them) and pray that God will multiply His blessings on those who have planted a financial seed in His work.

The meeting must end on time!

Unlike the airlines – we may take off late, but we always land on time!

If your speaker is going too long, find a way to recover the meeting so that you may end promptly on time.

We must respect people's time.

If we do not end on time, some will not come back and attendance will dwindle.

Do not feel that you must give "THE WHOLE THING" at each meeting.

Invite the people to come back next week!

Globally... As One!

A Sample Meeting Program Guide

(used by some)

1. Welcome (2 minutes)

Good evening everybody. I am happy to welcome you to the _____ Chapter of FGBMFI. We are part of an important global organization with 7,000 chapters. This event is prepared especially for those who are our guests.

2. Introduction of Guests (5 minutes)

Would each guest please introduce themselves by giving your name, occupation, and the name of the person who invited you (note: or you may have the one who invited introduce their guests). At the end, give them welcome with applause.

3. The Vision (4 minutes maximum)

Invite the designated person to tell the story of the Vision and how it directs this organization. See page 3 of this training guide for the detail.

4. First Reality Story (7 to 8 minutes)

Introduce the speaker who will give their reality story: (*name*) from (*describe business*). Let's welcome him/her with applause (do not give a lengthy bio—the introduction is not religious and should be brief — just 30 seconds).

5. Envelope with Prayer Cards (2 minutes)

Distribute the envelopes and quickly explain that writing your prayer requests is like an email to God asking for his guidance. Also, explain that we believe when we give to God's work we are honoring him and we believe God will honor those who honor Him. You may complete your card and giving during the meeting.

6. Main Reality Story (30 minutes)

Introduce the speaker who will give their reality story: (*name*) from (*describe business*). Let's welcome him/her with applause (do not give a lengthy bio—the introduction is not religious and should be brief — just 30 seconds).

7. Collect the prayer cards and offering envelopes.

The MC should give a prayer for the requests, and prayer for the offering.

8. Close the meeting

Make brief announcements (special events, membership, etc...) — invite everyone to come next week and bring a friend — invite those who want special prayer to join you in specified location. Dismiss.

Testimony Speakers

A.

Your speaker may tell about their business (5 minutes), and relate how it can help you, then give their personal story.

The person's story is in 3 parts:

1. What their life was like before they received Christ (include humorous details)
2. How they met Jesus. (The Jesus moment)
3. The changes for better in their family, business, happiness and life.

Invite local Christian men and women as speakers.

They may be your Christian banker, Christian car dealer, Christian mortgage broker, Christian chiropractor, Christian doctor or real estate person. There are many Christians in business and many working for companies that are advertising in the Christian arena.

B.

Download inspiring personal testimonies from www.fgbmfi.org. [Coming Soon]
Use them for your testimony segments.

Downloading testimonies is especially good for office and marketplace groups.

C.

Invite the speakers from other Chapters.

Invite your members to give their testimonies.

(After they have been trained in the proper way.)

Note: Honorariums

In thousands of chapters every week, men and women are freely sharing their testimony of what God has done for them. This is the pattern for FGBMFI.

It is appropriate to give honorariums and travel expense for special event speakers, special training events, conventions, and Headquarters' trainers and speakers.

How Long Is The Meeting?

A.

Our usual meeting is 60 minutes long

An exception to this is the evening dinner meetings, which may run 90 minutes.

B.

For those who have less time for their breakfast or lunch meetings

We suggest a 40-minute meeting plan.

C.

For those who only have 30 minutes for lunch

You may condense the meeting.

The Message

The message is a personal story. It is the reality experience of Christ's love and His ability to give "A BETTER LIFE." The anointing and inspiration received by people who are accustomed to the stresses of the workplace is most important.

MARKETING

Let Your Light Shine

A.

The Group or Chapter President shall appoint a Marketing Person.

B.

Public Relation Releases

Given to local newspapers.

Local advertisement mailers and giveaways.

Company news (if you meet in a large corporation).

Email communication.

C.

TV/News

Local news shows.

Local talk shows.

Local cable networks.

FGBMFI Reaching Millions For Christ

Just imagine, 8,000 times every week, men and women are standing up and giving a personal reality story of Christ changing their life for the better.

In addition, we are conducting special outreaches. The following is just a sample.

In the United States, in Dallas, Texas, three people were saved at the opening of a brand new weekly lunch chapter.

In California, a 55-year old first timer was called up to give a greeting. He looked very nice with a tie and jacket and his hair fixed up. He said, "For 20 years I have lived in the back alleys with my food coming from the dumpster. I was filthy, but these FGBMFI men came and got me. They told me that they loved me. For 20 years no one had told me that they loved me. They cleaned me up, gave me clothes, took me to the barber shop and I am so happy. Now I know that they love me and Jesus loves me." The next week the men were asked, "Where is your friend that you saved from the alleys." They said, "During the week, he died and now he is in heaven."

In Honduras, at a University, a young girl came forward carrying what was her suicide note written on school notebook paper. She said that together with her boyfriend they were going to commit suicide that day. "I had no hope, but now that I have found Christ, I don't need this note, because I have found hope."

Her note said, "Dear Moma, dear Papa, I love you very much but I have no hope. Please forgive me." Not only did she find Christ that day, but her life was saved as well.

In Nicaragua, a man who had been broken by life, staggered into our meeting drunk. He had lost his family, his business, his home and was sleeping in a \$500 car behind a gas station. All he remembers is that they said, "if you say this prayer your life will be better."

After prayer, he kept coming back to our meetings, he received God's power to succeed. Today, now, he enjoys the love and affection of his wife and children. His business has grown and is famous in his nation. With his family he lives in a beautiful mansion, debt free.

In Guatemala, a young man dressed in rags was standing opposite the finest hotel in Guatemala city. He was born at the garbage dump. His home, his clothes, all came from the garbage. Our men spotted him and took him to an FGBMFI lunch at this beautiful hotel. There he found Christ. He was mentored and became a famous accountant. Eventually owning 5 businesses, he took the light of the Gospel into 22 Nations.

We Give Generously To FGBMFI

A.

Because we are called to the ministry of FGBMFI in the marketplace...

As men and women of the marketplace, we know that it takes finances to do the work of God in this world.

We are committed to the success of FGBMFI and its outreaches.

We are giving to obey the commandments of the Bible and because we love God.

“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

Matthew 6:21 / Luke 12:34

B.

By financially supporting FGBMFI, we are putting our heart into the center of our calling.

The work of the International as expressed through our International Headquarters has enabled FGBMFI to reaching millions of individual lives. This work is bringing **“a better life”** to many who otherwise would lead empty lives.

Our International Headquarters is the very heart and center of this Fellowship.

Through it's outreaches of encouragement, helps, printing, teaching, television and touching the nations.

FGBMFI is doing the following:

“To heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovery of site of the blind, to set at liberty men that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.” Luke 4:18-19.

C.

Partnership with the International on a monthly basis means you are a financial partner in the calling God has given you to reach people in the marketplace on a worldwide basis.

The law of God — “sowing and reaping”— which is given in Genesis is what we believe. We are seeing many find a new and much better financial life as they begin to give and even tithe from their income to the International.

Giving is always a matter of will. “Whosoever will...” This is an invitation to take a step to a higher level in our spiritual and financial life.

Chapter/Group Officers—Duties & Responsibilities

The Chapter **President/Coordinator** is responsible for making sure the chapter is fulfilling the mandate, the vision, the mission and the strategy of FGBMFI.

- He has overall Spiritual responsibility for the leading, direction and the success of the Chapter.
- He is responsible for overall direction of the Chapter, including but not limited to training, as well as the interlinking of Business and Ministry as it pertains to advancing the Kingdom of God in the Marketplace.
- He is responsible for the engaging of the Guest Speaker.
- He is responsible for raising the finances necessary to meet the vision of the Chapter as well as successfully acquiring Corporate Membership in order to strengthen the financial position of both the Local Chapter and the International Headquarters.
- He must believe in and have received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

The Chapter **Vice President** assists the President and ensures that the chapter is fulfilling the mandate, the vision, the mission and the strategy of FGBMFI.

- He fulfills those duties assigned to him by the President, including but not limited to ensuring everything is in place for successful Chapter Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner Meetings.
- Assumes Presidential responsibilities in the absence of the President.
- He must believe in and have received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

The Chapter/Group **Secretary** assists the President/Coordinator and ensures that the chapter is fulfilling the mandate, the vision, the mission and the strategy of FGBMFI.

- He maintains all Chapter Records and is responsible for submitting reports and disseminating information to and from the International Office.
- He is responsible for making sure the members and their friends receive the Voice, E-Voice, Announcements of Meetings, etc.
- He is responsible for all Chapter Advertising and Press Releases.
- He is responsible for the Chapter Website and all updates.
- He is responsible for communications with the International Office (primarily by email and tracking information through the International website).
- He must believe in and have received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- Can be Appointed by President due to specific skill sets needed for position.

The Chapter/Group **Treasurer** assists the President/Coordinator and ensures that the chapter is fulfilling the mandate, the vision, the mission and the strategy of FGBMFI.

- Along with the President/Coordinator, he is a signer on the Chapter Bank Accounts or PrePaid Visa Card and sends his annual report to the International Headquarters. Along with the President, he is responsible for filing annually with the IRS.
- He is responsible for setting up and maintaining the Chapter Accounting Systems and have an open book for the Reg. Dir., Area. Cord. & Intl. Office.
- He is responsible along with the Chapter President/Coordinator for raising the finances necessary to meet the vision of the Chapter as well as successfully acquiring Corporate Membership in order to strengthen the financial position of both the Local Chapter and the International Headquarters.
- He must believe in and have received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- Must be elected by Chapter to the position—for proper checks and balances.

Chapter/Group Officers—Duties & Responsibilities (continued...)

The Chapter **Membership** Coordinator assists the President/Coordinator and ensures that the chapter is fulfilling the mandate, the vision, the mission and the strategy of FGBMFI.

- He watches over all the membership **issues** of the Chapter including the application of new members, renewal fees, offerings, gifts and the welcoming of new members.
- His primary responsibility is growing the **membership base** of the Chapter.
- He is responsible for working at the Registration Table at various Chapter events.
- He is responsible along with the Chapter President/Coordinator for raising the finances necessary to meet the vision of the Chapter as well as successfully acquiring Corporate Membership in order to strengthen the financial position of both the Local Chapter and the International Headquarters.

The Chapter **Outreach** Coordinator assists the President/Coordinator and ensures that the chapter is fulfilling the mandate, the vision, the mission and the strategy of FGBMFI.

- He helps every member evangelize his family and friends.
- He is responsible for all Prophetic, Evangelism Outreach or Fire Teams.
- Leads chapter in locating Fire Team opportunities within the city and planning for Fire Team events.
- He is responsible for coordinating Chapter & members Training and our Book Table.

The Chapter **Prayer** Coordinator assists the President/Coordinator and ensures that the chapter is fulfilling the mandate, the vision, the mission and the strategy of FGBMFI.

- He trains and equips the Chapter Members in Spiritual Warfare and Intercession
- He is responsible for coordinating the Chapter Prayer Meetings for “F.A.S.K.” Praying Group (Fasting, Asking, Seeking n Knocking) to pray.
- He is responsible for keeping abreast of City-Wide Prayer efforts and meetings.
- He is responsible for building relationships with Church and Ministry Intercessors.

The Chapter **Media** Coordinator assists the President/Coordinator and ensures that the chapter is fulfilling the mandate, the vision, the mission and the strategy of FGBMFI.

- He is responsible for making sure the members and their friends receive the Voice, E-Voice, Announcements of Meetings, etc.
- Assists **Secretary** with all Chapter Advertising and Press Releases.
- Assists **Secretary** with the Chapter Website and all updates.
- Coordinates opportunities in Radio & Television to promote the Fellowship.
- Creates Video reports of Chapter’s activities for International.

The Chapter **Members GOALS:**

- To bring at least one new visitor to our weekly or monthly meetings.
- Attend training seminars.
- Be involved in the Prophetic, Evangelism, Prayer & Fire Teams.
- Be steadfast in prayer for the lost and the growth of the Fellowship.
- Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit pertaining to where you can serve in your community.
- Those attending who reside outside of our city are required, after having undergone training and being led by the Holy Spirit, to birth other chapters in other regions in dialogue with their FGBMFI Regional or Area Coordinator and Chapter President.

Transform your community by lifting up the Name of Jesus and being Ambassadors of light flowing in the Supernatural Power of the Holy Spirit.

What is a FGBMFI Chapter?

What is a FGBMFI Fellowship Group?

Chapters and Fellowship Groups are outreaches to help people find Christ and “A Better Life.”

Seminars and Men’s Camps are training events.

Conventions and the World Convention are family events of music, testimony, worship and spiritual enrichment.

Chartered Chapter:

According to our Bylaws, must have 10 men who are members.
(Delegates from Chartered Chapters have voting rights).

Chapters In Formation:

May be started with less than the required number. Upon reaching 4 to 5 men you may contact the International office for assistance in becoming a chartered chapter.

FGBMFI Fellowship Groups:

Must be registered with the International Headquarters by submitting an Application for Affiliation. A leader in a Fellowship Group must be a member of FGBMFI. They are subject to the same rules and guidelines as a Chapter that meets weekly.

“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there in the midst of them.”

A Fellowship group may be started with only 2 or 3 members — either men or women.

Ladies of the Fellowship Chapters:

Must be registered with the International Headquarters by submitting an Application for Affiliation. A leader in a Ladies’ Chapter must be a member of the Ladies of the Fellowship. They are subject to the same rules and guidelines as a Chapter that meets weekly.

Youth Chapters:

Must be registered with the International Headquarters by submitting an Application for Affiliation. A leader in a Youth Chapter must be a member of FGBMFI. They are subject to the same rules and guidelines as a Chapter that meets weekly. A Youth chapter can become a Chartered Chapter when they are able to meet the membership requirements.

Leaders and Officers of chapters and fellowship groups must be current members of FGBMFI. As such they accept the Statement of Belief of FGBMFI.