

REVISING YOUR WILL

Good estate planning is an ongoing process. Many attorneys recommend reviewing will and trust documents annually or at least every few years. Milestone birthdays or anniversaries can serve as helpful reminders to review your will and many major life events like marriages, births, adoptions, job changes, or retirements often represent reasons for updating or amending your will.

Here are some simple steps to help you get started:

1. **Determine needed changes.** Some changes, such as adding a child or replacing an executor, can be relatively simple to make. Others, like changing the assets you would like to leave and to whom, may be more complex. Knowing what you want to change will determine your next steps.
2. **Choose how you will make those changes.** Small changes may be executed using a codicil, a legal term for an amendment attached to your original will, much like a P.S. in a letter. Significant changes, on the other hand, may require rewriting your will. It's best to consult your attorney to determine the best method for your situation and objectives.
3. **Write down your desired changes.** If you are creating a codicil, write out your desired changes. If you're rewriting your will, consider using the original format and make your changes to the document. We always recommend that any wording changes be made with the assistance of a qualified attorney or legal document service provider, such as Christian Trustmaker. To learn more about this online estate planning tool, visit ChristianTrustmaker.com. Friends of BGEA will receive a discount code, with no obligation to the ministry.
4. **Sign, date, and notarize your documents.** You must sign the newly revised will or codicil, along with the required number of witnesses. Some states have additional requirements, such as notarization; work with your estate attorney to ensure compliance with all applicable regulations.
5. **Store the current will and any codicil in a secure location.** If you have a new will, destroy the previous original and any copies.

As you review your will, would you prayerfully consider a legacy gift to share the Gospel with people around the world? We regularly hear stories from people like you who tell us about the joy they feel after planning a gift to the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. Legacy gifts are particularly meaningful because they will help reach the next generation with the hope of Jesus Christ, so “*that a people yet to be created may praise the Lord*” (Psalm 102:18, NKJV).

Thank you for your prayers and financial support. We appreciate your heart to share God's love with others.

*THIS INFORMATION DOES NOT CONSTITUTE LEGAL OR FINANCIAL ADVICE. DONORS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO SEEK INDEPENDENT ADVICE.

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