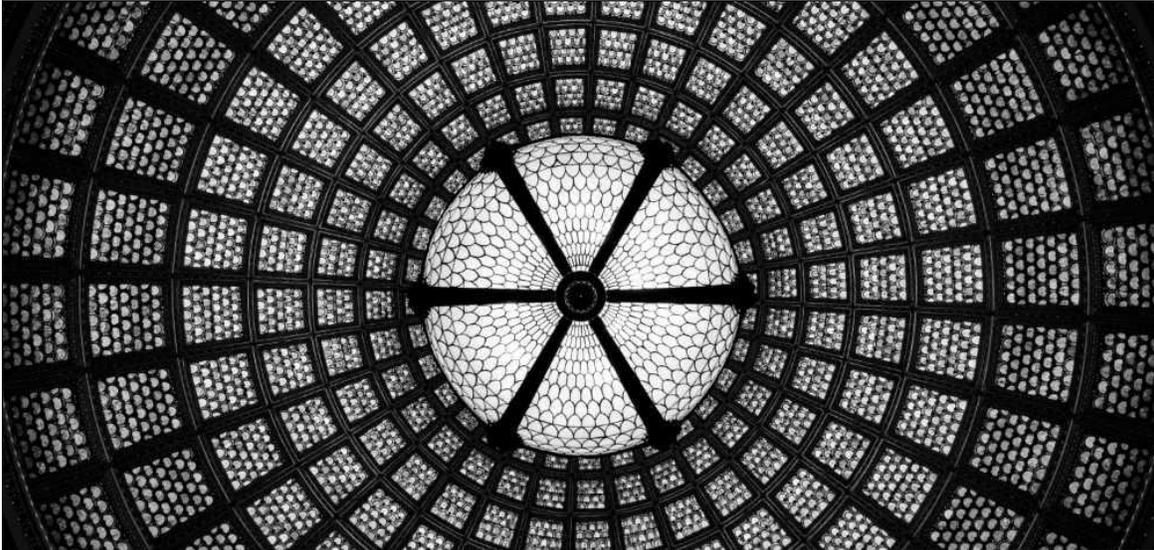




July 2017

## Supporting Your Journey



### Gifts for your Journey!

We call this monthly newsletter *1K Churches; Supporting your Journey*. And that is exactly what we aim to do: Support you! We share stories here from congregations who have experienced the Bible study and made a loan and built a relationship with a local business. We invite you to participate in a monthly telephone conference where you can ask your questions and meet people from other congregations on this journey of connecting their faith with the economy and their community.

As you gear up for the fall and plan for the year at your congregation, we also point you to the print resources that have been created to support you on this journey:

- [Introduction to 1K Churches](#). This two page flier explains the program and is a good resource to share with others in your congregation to generate interest.
- [1K Churches Getting Started Guide](#). This resource provides step-by-step advice for the individual or group seeking to get 1K Churches going in their congregation. What do you need to have in place before you start? What should you think through? How do you invite others in? How do you relate to the congregation as a whole?
- [1K Churches Bible Study - Facilitation Guide](#). This detailed guide provides the Bible study leader with all he or she needs to lead the five-sessions, including theological and economic content, process notes, discussion questions, prayers.
- [1K Churches Bible Study - Participant Guide](#). Copies of this resource are made available to participants in the

### 1K Churches Monthly Calls

The Criterion team hosts monthly calls to support the 1k journey. Led by Rev. Phyllis Anderson, these informal calls are a time for participants to share insights, ask questions, and support each other. There is no need to RSVP, you are very welcome to just join us at the appropriate time and date by dialling 641.715.0875 using participant code 324443.

#### Call schedule

July 20, Thursday,  
11:00-12:00 AM ET  
August 23, Wednesday,  
11:00-12:00 AM ET

### Chocolate for Stories

Send your 1K stories for Fair Trade Chocolate! We want to hear the stories of your congregations. We invite you to send a story from your congregation's experience with 1K Churches to [info@riterioninstitute.org](mailto:info@riterioninstitute.org).

Bible study for use in each session and reflection between times.

- [Guide to Implementing Angel Investment Loans](#). This resource gives concrete advice for identifying potential borrowers, making the loan, and building a healthy relationship, as you put what you have learned about your faith in the Bible study into action. Additional guides for implementing other types of loans will be available by the end of the year.
- [1K Prayer Book](#). Prayers written by 1K participants have been collated into a booklet to inspire and encourage you along the journey.

A lot of information and practical help is available in these resources. All that you need really. And it is all free to you for the taking. Just download the materials from the links provided here or from the Criterion website: [www.criterioninstitute.org/OurChurchWork/1KChurches](http://www.criterioninstitute.org/OurChurchWork/1KChurches).

These guides and resources are gifts to you as support for the journey. They are informed by the experience of other groups like yours and consultation with experts. They are not a set of rules or instructions that must be followed to the letter. Use your own wisdom. You can do this! Make the adjustments that will make the program fit with your people, your tradition, your community.

These resources are free to your congregation. The cost of developing materials and providing ongoing support for your journey is covered by generous gifts to Criterion Institute from our friends. You are invited to join this growing circle of friends by making a gift to Criterion Institute on our website ([www.criterioninsitute.org](http://www.criterioninsitute.org)) or at Criterion Institute, 81 Church Hill Road, Haddam, Connecticut 06438.

## Inspiration: A Prayer for Those in Business

God of the Covenant:  
you give love without return,  
and lavish gifts without looking for gain.  
Watch over the ways of business,  
so that those who buy or sell, get or lend,  
may live justly and show mercy  
and walk in your ways.  
May profits be fair and contracts kept.  
In our dealings with each other  
may we display true charity;  
through Jesus Christ  
who has loved us with mercy. **Amen**

*A prayer For Those in Business from Book of Common Worship,  
Westminster/John Knox Press, Louisville, Kentucky, 1993.*

## About 1K Churches

1K Churches Bible study and loan program provides a new way for local congregations to advance one of their mission priorities through finance. Based on their study and reflection on God's economy through a five-week Bible study, the congregation makes a small loan to a small business in their community related to their mission concern. In the process, they form a new relationship with a local business owner, participate in the benefits the business offers the community and experience the power of using finance for good.

1K Churches is a program of **Criterion Institute**, the leading think tank focused on finance as a tool for social change. For more information go to [www.criterioninstitute.org](http://www.criterioninstitute.org).

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