

Thanks Million!

By John Reese CEDAR PARK, TX

ission accomplished—*thanks to* God's grace and His work through so many of you!

For some years, our annual count of new WBS enrollees remained steady, at just under a million, based on English *Red and Blue Introductions* (Intros) sent. But "steady" is not good enough, especially with eternal souls at stake in a world racing toward seven billion. Our Master presses forward to reach "every creature." Thus WBS' goal became **Make it a** *Million!*—aiming for over a million new students in 2005, in terms of Intros.

Ron Pottberg led the recruiting drive, personally traveling over 100,000 miles worldwide. (See Ron's reports inside this



Austin elder Chuck Wilson gives thanks with two baptized during a WBS campaign in Papua New Guinea, one of many places impacted by 2005's Make it a *Million!* 

issue.) Kevin Rhodes led the fund raising drive. *You* led the teaching of so many price-less souls, the recruiting through student referrals, and the crucial support you sent. Impact Sunday was especially important for major distributions in India, Africa, and the Philippines. The result: 2005's total exceeded 1,000,000! That total does not include WBS in Spanish (an emphasis for 2006) and in 35 other languages. God alone, to Whom all the glory goes, knows the grand total with its increase, which will result in a vast harvest for eternity.

#### What An Impactful Sunday!

The road to **Make it a** *Million!* was not easy. Some key countries slumped as compared with earlier years. For example,

2005 exceeded 1,000,000 new students! Zimbabwe's civil problems virtually cut off return correspondence. The greater effort and cost led to WBS' special appeal called Impact Sunday.

What an impact! Hurricanes Katrina and Rita had just hit, requiring huge amounts contributed for relief. Yet, in their Father's power, churches of Christ across the nation rose to the challenge once again. Led by incredibly generous congregations, they gave well over \$200,000 for **Make it a** *Million!*'s final push, which has turned out so successfully.

The real impact is individual—each soul impacted. Precious people like James and Petuel (pictured with Chuck Wilson) were born into God's family in Alotau during Papua New Guinea's WBS campaign. They represent thousands worldwide whom the Lord will bless because of seeds sown in 2005. On their behalf, and with overflowing hearts, we say to you all: **"Thanks a** *Million!"* 



Teaching the **Word**. Reaching the **World**!

Talking Things Over from the President, Tex Williams



WBS is taking on a changing world! We are planning for and anticipating a great year for WBS in 2006. We want to get as many students as possible to study with WBS teachers. Getting new students is probably one of the most challenging aspects of our work. That is because we

live in a changing world and we have to

Continued on page 6

In This Issue:

Thanks a *Million!* p. 1 Tex: Talking Things Over p. 1

John: Call to Action p. 2 Internet: Casting the 'Net p. 3 Giving: Above & Beyond p. 3

Missions in Action! pp. 4-5

**Tips for Teachers** p. 6 **Memorials** p. 7

#### WEST AFRICAN TEAMWORK!



Liberian missionary to The Gambia, Isaac Daye, helps Sierra Leone campaigners with WBS lessons. Ron shared the thrill of their success. See page 2...

### Call to Action!



by John Reese

We hope you enjoy the new look and feel

of Action! As Tex noted before, our vital content remains the same.

**T** e motivate and educate for local and world missions, especially through WBS, which results in the Gospel reaching millions. To that end we keep improving.

Notice that "Volume 70" reflects our distinguished heritage, which predates 1962 when the name *Action* appeared. The original publisher, Jimmie Lovell, believed in the power of literature. He launched several periodicals (Hogan's Helper, Colorado Christian, West Coast Christian in 1937, and California Christian). All expressed his tireless zeal for world evangelism.

Jimmie's biography, The Man of Action, says, "Like all his publications, Action has no particular axe to grind, is trying to sell nothing but support for the gospel of Christ and costs the Lovells money every issue."

What a legacy of faith and compassion! How packed with enthusiasm and insight!

Jimmie literally packed 2000 words per page. At 650 words, we cannot match that. But we are easier to read. More importantly, we share Jimmie's vision, and press higher to the same goal, the greatest of all goals. Follow the call to Action! The new exclamation (!) signals action that is more dynamic than ever.

# **Exciting News** in Sierra Leone

By Ron Pottberg SIERRA LEONE

That a year for the Lord's work in Sierra Leone! God has used the WBS team to accomplish some amazing things there in 2005. The WBS team had set their goals to recruit at least 1,000 new students each month. They far exceeded their goal, as Isaac Daye and I witnessed on our recent visit. In just one week our team recruited over 4,000 new WBS students who are already receiving lessons. We worked in the capital city of Freetown, as well as in Bo, the second largest city in the country.

The WBS office is located in central Freetown. Each day we saw students coming by to drop off their lessons or to have personal studies with the evangelists in the office. We met with many who have been converted this year already. One student had converted ten of his friends in just the past few months. We even had some of the newest converts hit the streets with us to recruit more students. They were thrilled to be able to help give others the opportunity to study God's word. Another 1,500 students have been signed up since we

left there, making close to 20,000 this year.

One of our concerns was the slow down in postal services. We had meetings with the postal authorities and discovered some

of the problems. Many students use street addresses, and Sierra Leone does not deliver mail to such addresses. We claimed all of the undelivered WBS lessons. At one post office



WBS recruits students in Bo.



Isaac Daye helps WBS workers process mail.

alone, there were over 4,000 lessons sitting there. Our workers immediately went to the street addresses and started handing out these lessons to the students. Before I left three days later, many of these students had already returned their mail for me to bring back to the U.S. They want to study. So, we must find a way to get the mail to them and from them.

#### **Special Arrangements for Sierra Leone**

We have set up a WBS mail box in Sierra Leone and are asking all teachers to follow the directions for getting mail to and from

students. All lessons for Sierra n one week we Leone need to be packaged together and sent to WBS in Cedar Park. We will then route this mail to our address at: World Bible School, P.O. Box 861, Freetown, Sierra Leone. Our workers

> will then distribute this mail to the students. If you have questions, please call the Cedar Park WBS office at 512-345-8190 for further instructions.



WBS recruits more students in Freetown.

### recruited over 4,000 WBS students.



*Casting the 'Net* by Tex Williams

or many years to come, World Bible School will reach into remote areas of Africa and Asia through the mail systems. However, more and more modern techniques for communication are having their effects in Third World nations,

especially in large cities.

I remember going into the capital city of Gaborone in Botswana in the 1960s. Mud huts were the prime means of housing most of the people on the outskirts of the city. I returned again for a brief visit in the

### Many more people around the globe are gaining access to the internet, which opens a world of opportunity to WBS!

1990's and was amazed to see TV antennas on those same huts. Now when you visit African and Asian cities, more and more computer

> centers are set up, computer science is taught in the schools, and the use of computers is becoming more and more common.

Consequently, WBS Internet is one of our growing areas of outreach. Kit Lawson handles our English WBS Internet program, and Kristi Bond works with our Spanish WBS Internet outreach.

Usually, in Third World countries, the use of computers is through Computer Centers or Computer Cafes where a person can rent time on a computer to send and receive messages. Many are able to find the WBS Internet offerings, and they provide their name and mailing address which are passed on to WBS teachers who provide the lessons.



Above & Beyond by Kevin Rhodes

### 2005 has been a grand success! God has blessed the efforts of many working together.

WBS grows

through the

Internet in

**Third World** 

countries.

e knew in our prayer and planning—many months back—that the Make it a Million! theme was a good one. A million new students! (And the phrase had a nice turn, too.) But could we pull it off? And the funding that it would take. Where would THAT come from? It is a constant challenge to be faithful in raising the dollars that allow this ministry to fulfill its mission: to teach and reach a lost world with Bible lessons and volunteer Christian teachers.

We realized quickly that this was not an effort that mere humans could fulfill on their own. Indeed, God has been at work from the very beginning. Most of all, from the financial perspective, He has been working through generous hearts-Christians who realize

that there is a dollar cost to fulfilling the Great Commission on a global scale.

For those who have given to WBS during 2005, know that your contributed dollar is having great impact. Remember: one dollar given means one student gets that first lesson. Thank you for helping WBS "Make it a Million!"





Worldwide Internet usage impresses with it's reach. But it

may surprise you how much of the world still must rely solely on printed lessons: 68% North America 9% Asia 36% Europe

13% Latin America 9% Middle East

3% Africa 15% Worldwide www.worldinternetstats.com



#### **EDITOR** R.H. Tex Williams **ASSOCIATE EDITOR** John Reese

Action! (ISSN 8750-1333) USPS 004380 is published bi-monthly by the nonprofit ministry of World Bible School. WBS is a world-wide network of Christians teaching the Gospel with correspondence courses, both printed and over the Internet.





Teaching the Word. Reaching the World! P.O. Box 2169 • Cedar Park, Texas 78630 USA 512-345-8190 • 800-311-2006 • fax 512-401-8265 Material Orders only: 877-393-0211 Email: wbsinfo@worldbibleschool.net Ministry site: www.worldbibleschool.net Student site: www.wbschool.org

Periodicals postage paid at Cedar Park, Texas, and at additional mailing offices.



nissions and in Action

### Reaching into Kenya with WBS

by Jerry R. Kilpatrick

#### HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

I have been involved with the WBS effort in Kenya since 1986. Most of my efforts have been in western Kenya in the city of Nakuru. I made my first mission trip to Kenya in 1995 and have returned on six occasions since then.

The church in Goodlettsville, TN. asked me to hire two men in Western Kenya to do their follow up work. On my first trip, I met Jeremiah Zablon who was a WBS convert in 1972. His teacher was Lawrence Cummings from California who sent him other materials to grow spiritually.

My wife and I traveled to Kenya in 1995 and met Geoffrey Barasa who was converted through WBS in 1980. His teacher had been Shela Bowman. These men helped us spread the word throughout western Kenya.



Brothers Jeremiah Zablon and Geoffrey Barasa were converted through WBS.

The church at Goodlettsville has a unique strategy to get the correspondence courses to people and to get them graded and returned to the student. The church ships blank WBS forms to the team with grading keys. The church in Nakuru West dedicates one room of the building to house the WBS materials. Brothers Zeblon and Barasa see that the materials are distributed to the people of Western Kenya with the return address being the office in Nakuru. This eliminates the overseas postage, which in many cases determines whether a person can continue studying with WBS.

Each time I go to Kenya, I load my luggage with blank courses. The remainder is shipped in M-bags through the mail. The church has grown not only in Nakuru, but also in several villages in that area.

In the fall of 2003, Brother Ron Williams, minister of the Lincoln church in Huntsville, and I returned to Kenya for a two-week campaign. We were delighted to see that, through the efforts of Jeremiah and Geoffrey, the church in Nakuru West now has a nice church building. Jeremiah and Geoffrey are serving as elders and continue to do follow up work for the church in Goodletsville.

Brothers Jeremiah and Geoffrey are fine examples of leaders who began as students of World Bible School many years ago. They are to be commended for their vision in spreading God's word. The church in Goodlettsville is to be commended for their support of this great work. (Maysville Church of Christ, 111 Demetra Drive, Huntsville, AL 35811)





Ken Bolden (right) confers with World Radio speakers in Liberia.

### Liberia WBS Graduates 135

by Ron Pottberg

#### MONROVIA, LIBERIA

On November 29<sup>th</sup>, Isaac Daye, missionary to The Gambia, and Ron Pottberg flew to Monrovia, Liberia, for the second annual Campaign for Christ. The campaign and outreach efforts continued across the capital city with churches participating and attending the daily events. We were joined in this work by Ken Bolden, Director of World Radio, whose team has weekly broadcasts in the country as part of its outreach by churches of Christ.

We held three days of teaching in the area churches. Then a three night gospel meeting was held at the Central Monrovia congregation. Each day our WBS team hit the streets and signed up hundreds of students to study the WBS lessons through our local office in downtown Monrovia. This office has reached over 10,000 students this year alone.

A two-day World Bible School seminar was then held and we studied with several hundred WBS students at once. This event culminated with a special graduation ceremony, a first for the country of Liberia. We had 135 WBS students who completed all of the WBS lessons, studying through the local office with WBS evangelists.

At the end of the two day seminar, we took nine to the nearby ocean to immerse them into Christ.

Our WBS team in Liberia is doing a great job, and we pray that peace will continue in this war torn country so that God's word can continue to increase and souls can be saved.



Isaac Daye (center) is shown with coworkers in Monrovia.



### WBS Reaches Resistant Areas

Anonymous

#### ILLINOIS

I (the author) have lived and worked in Libya, Bangladesh, Azerbaijan, India, and Pakistan and marvel that the Lord is opening up parts of the world normally denied us.

Since late spring of this year, members of the church in Illinois have mailed 150 - 200 WBS Intro lessons in response to requests from two countries with significant Hindu populations, as well as to 11 countries from the west coast of Africa to the Middle East to Indonesia. The populations of those countries are predominately Muslim.

When there was only a sprinkling of replies after the first four months following this first mailing, we wondered if many of the Intros were thrown away by postal authorities (or other "censors") when they read the word "Bible" on the outside of the folded lessons. We have since followed up with duplicate Intros. which are mailed in unmarked envelopes, making sure that no mention of a church (or Christ) was part of return addresses on the envelopes.

We are praying that the majority of these last lessons get through, that we may succeed in studying the Bible with people in formerly inaccessible cultures, and that souls will be brought to Christ out of a very dark part of the world.

And we are thrilled at the possibilities. Who knows but what a good number of the first (and second) mailing will yield fruit?



### WBS Seminars in Nigeria

by Makinde E. Olufemi

#### NIGERIA

There will be several WBS Seminars in February 2006 held in Nigeria. Below is a list of the dates and locations of the seminars.

Any WBS teacher who has students in these areas should notify their students and invite them to attend.

Brother Doug Wheeler will be working with local evangelists in these special efforts to follow up on WBS students. The seminars will start at 4:00 p.m. daily.

For more information contact Brother Makinde E. Olufemi. (WBS Follow up Coordinator, Nigeria) Email *makinde\_ebens@yahoo.com* 

Monday, February 20, 2006 Venue - Church of Christ Onikokoro/Gbongudu Auditorium via Akobo Ojurin, Ibadan c/o Box 35606 Agodi, Ibadan Host Ministers: Okon S. Udoh & Makinde E. Olufemi

Tuesday, February 21, 2006 Venue - Church of Christ Oniyere Auditorium Klm 132, Ibadan/Lagos Express Way, Ibadan, Box 23650 Mapo, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria Host Minister: Gabriel Akinyoola

Wednesday, February 22, 2006 Venue - Church of Christ Oke Ofa Atipe Auditorium Kiyan's Compound, Ibadan c/o Box 35606, Agodi, Ibadan Host Minister: Adediran Williams

Thursday, February 23, 2006 Venue - Church of Christ U.I. Auditorium, Abadina School II University of Ibadan Campus Oyo State Host Minister: James Daniel





## Overcoming **Problems** in Mail System

he first Action of 2006 should have positive tips for you. The reality is that Gospel teaching, by WBS or any other method, is spiritual warfare. As in all wars, there are setbacks as well as advances. At times the setbacks have to do with postal delivery since most correspondence depends on mail.

Zimbabwe furnishes the most obvious example. Satan has worked such chaos in that country that mail has virtually halted, even within country. *Time* recently reported inflation above 400% and life expectancy down to 33. Please pray for God to replace chaos with healthy order that allows the Gospel to run freely. Your petitions are "powerful and effective."

Another situation has surfaced in the **Philippines.** Some students are returning their lessons in an incorrect manner, which partially explains poor returns. Our WBS offices have developed good solutions, available by phoning us at Cedar Park 512 345 8190.

One important solution is an internal address in the Philippines to help students afford to return answers to you. Please place this as your return address in the WBS lesson and in the answer sheet:

> Teacher's name and WBS code number World Bible School P.O. Box 1968 2600 Baguio City The Philippines

Here, also, is the new internal WBS address for Sierra Leone.

> Teacher's name and WBS code number World Bible School 2 Campbell Street P.O. Box 861 Freetown Sierra Leone

If you have students in Sierra Leone, please phone us for further details concerning that country.



Tex Williams: from page 1

make adjustments to those changes to continue to make our outreach effective.

In years past, we were able to advertise in newspapers and get good students. The

Please

encourage

students to

submit names

of prospective

students.

students could also afford the low cost of postage needed to send the answer sheets directly back to their teachers. Over the years, several changes have occurred, and we have had to readjust to whatever those changes have demanded. For instance, at one time there was probably only one major

newspaper in a country that we targeted for evangelism. One ad placed would mean that

many people would find the ad and respond. We could then sign them up as students. Now those countries have as many as five or more newspapers, so our advertisements are reduced in their effectiveness. That does not mean that newspaper advertising is not

still a viable way to obtain new students; it just means that we must use other means to contact prospective students. One of the most effective ways of procuring names is for WBS teachers to encourage their students to send the names and addresses of friends and families who would like to study. WBS teachers should constantly encourage their students to solicit others to sign up for the



### **New Intro:** The Way

anuary 2006 sees the launch of WBS' Unew Intro, a 16 page booklet, The Way. Intros welcome, inspire, teach and gather

information. They also sift out the poorly motivated S0 that interested students can benefit from costlier WBS materials. While sifting, the Intro must keep as many as possible learning



the Gospel. The newest Intro aims to retain many more students; see page 8.

(Separate "inserts" for this purpose will be discontinued since they are built into

Continued on page 7

courses. If a teacher or church gets more students than they can teach, send those names to our WBS offices as we have contact with churches and teachers who want them.

Also, we at the WBS office make trips overseas to solicit students. For example, John Reese went to Zimbabwe and Zambia for that purpose. A couple of years ago, I went to Sierra Leone and Liberia and, with the help of brethren, was able to procure several hundred names. Brother Ron Pottberg went to several African countries last year and obtained names as well.

Keep these things in your prayers. Names and addresses mean more souls taught and led to the Lord.



"Christ put you in His will. Have you remembered to put His work in your will?"

Product Spotlight from page 6

this newest Intro. Something similar to inserts, however, will be available for campaign distributions.)

The colors still lend themselves to the name "Red and Blue Intro." The more formal name is The Way. With the first printing of 500,000, the previous Red and Blue Intro will be discontinued. Despite the significant costs of developing a better booklet, the price to teachers remains the same at 15 cents each. The Choice Questions and Grading Key also remain the same. A new Teacher's Guide will help you understand how best to use this upgraded tool. Order toll free 877-393-0211.

Please

### Honor/Memorial Contributors List

In Memory of Annie Estelle Barnett

Michael & Sharon Coffman Joe & Jand George Mr. & Mrs. Joe Jett Tony & Jeannette Matthews Laverne E. Thomason

- In Memory of Viola Baumann William & Vickie Seniker
- In Memory of Hazel Beck Alton Beck
- In Memory of Frankie Biggs Lonnie & Wanda Lewis
- In Memory of Mark Bradshaw Tina Bradshaw

In Memory of Lester Brewer Ed Campbell Edna Cheek Sara V. Haertel Elizabeth Haley Larry & Jeannette Sharp

- In Memory of Dr. Leo J. Castglion Shawn & Jill O'Pella
- In Memory of Mildred Cheatham Ed Campbell Joe & Jane George Robert & Margaret Neill
- In Memory of Daisy Creamer Calvin & Hazel Bryan
- In Memory of Louise Crossnoe JoAnn Templeton
- For Wendell Davis, in celebration of the New Year Geral & Sally Carrico
- Bequeath from Austin C. Ellis In Memory of Dewey & Edna Dykes

Green Lawn Church of Christ Kevin & Julie Rhodes

In Memory of Avis England James England, Jr.

In Honor of Annetta Fair's Birthday Charles & Mary Owen

In Honor of Ian & June Fair's 50th Wedding Anniversary Reid & Marilyn Holmesly

In Memory of Mike Finel Joe & Jane George

In Memory of Jerry Flack Mr. & Mrs. Tom Brock

- In Memory of Eva Gibboney Sheila Morris
- In Memory of Duke Harmon Evalyn Peterson
- In Memory of Lula Hays Maurice & Mary Nell Kemper
- In Memory of Inez Hughey Mr. & Mrs. Sam Epperson
- In Memory of Owen Humphrey William & Vickie Seniker
- In Memory of Lyle Isbell Rose M. Warhurst
- In Honor of Mamie Jackson's 96th Birthday Imogene Carter
- In Memory of Ruthal Clara Janes Lanelle Howard
- In Memory of Maxine Jensins Melba J. Sampson
- In Memory of Byron Kohl Dennis & Zella DePasse Montrose Church of Christ
- In Memory of Wilbert Krezer Mr. & Mrs. Sam Epperson

- In Memory of Jewell Lasseter Othel & Tommie Boles
- In Memory of Irene E. Lawrence Earnestine G. Davis
- In Honor of Robert, Marv, & **Maria Martin**
- Paul & Gaynell Mayberry In Memory of Steve Martin
- Paul Mayberry In Appreciation of Brother Herman McFarlen
- James & Virginia Holder
- In Memory of Paulind Meers Elain & Judy Earheart
- In Memory of Jason Newman Ed Campbell Joe & Jane George

In Honor of Mr. & Mrs. Bob **O'Rear** J. T. McClung

In Honor of Harry Parham Gladys West

- In Memory of Bennie Salge Carmon & Doris Grant Melba J. Sampson
- In Memory of Buford Lynn Snipes Lewis & Lola Ritchey
- In Memory of Dick Spiess Fred & Brenda Heath
- In Memory of Lee Roy Templeton Gary & Judy Bowe Kevin & Julie Rhodes
- In Memory of Louise Whaley William & Vickie Seniker

In Honor of Doug Wheeler & Family

a latter of a almostile document to

Paul & Gaynell Mayberry

emorial Gifts and Honor Gifts to WBS are ideal ways to remember a loved one's legacy or special circumstances. At the same time, your gift is used to "teach the Word and reach the world." Upon receipt of your gift, an appropriate letter of acknowledgement will be sent naming the honoree and you as the thoughtful donor.

J	Memorial	Å	Honor	Gifts	

r lease accept my:	City State Zin						
HONOR GIFT Birthday Anniversary Illness Friendship Other							
MEMORIAL GIFT  Memorial Gift  This gift is for  Mr. Mrs. Ms.							
This gift is from:			Please charge \$			to my credit card	
Name			□ Visa □ MasterCard				
Address			Card No				
City	State	Zip	Expiration	/	/		
Phone			Name (as on card)				
Church (optional)			Signature				

### **56** Prisoners **Converted Using** WBS Zulu Materials



#### Sam Pakade points to his WBS-rich nation.

by Sam Pakade CLERNAVILLE, REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

sing World Bible School Zulu material, the ministry at Westville Prison is going pretty well. We had 56 baptisms on the 30th of September.

It was a day that I shall never forget. I had never thought that I would get tired of baptizing people, but it was a long que.

Brother Elphas Ndawonde had to take over and finish baptizing the rest of the people. We now have 80 baptized members in Westville Prison.

# **New Intro**

eep listening. Keep learning. Keep adjusting in order to reach more souls!

That philosophy keeps us improving WBS materials-and the Lord keeps We introduced blessing the results! the Red and Blue Introduction Lesson (Intro) in 1993. Now the completion of the Master Series positions us to implement years of suggestions and research. The newest Intro The Wav increases student retention rates in four ways:

1. It displays the entire Master Series to motivate students to stay in WBS. They can now visualize how this brief Intro leads into deeper, more satisfying subjects. They can see intriguing topics ahead that answer their specific questions.

2. It reflects the glossy attractiveness and format of other Master Series lessons. The full set of seven studies looks well worth getting.

3. It addresses "felt needs." As before, the basic lesson invites meaningful rela-

tionships. It shows the Bible's importance for а meaningful, purposeful life. parts Additional the divine touch to matters of everyday relevance: worry, poverty, loneliness, sickness, temptation

4. The new student is immediately invited to sign up friends for WBS. Such "referrals" increase student numbers while building a sense of participation and ownership in the new student.

For your free sample, phone toll free 877 393 0211. For more details, turn now to Product Spotlight on page 6.



Upcoming with WBS... In 2006, WBS is reaching the "next generation" with the Gospel. Half of the Third World is under 25 years old. That's almost 3 billion people. God is opening doors to reach and teach them with WBS. Learn more during 2006 ...



bring

and doubt.

Teaching the Word. Reaching the World! P.O. Box 2169 Cedar Park, Texas 78630