

make disciples



MATHETIS

This scene is from the
Mathetis Original courses.
Go to mathetis.org/preview

who obey **all**.

“**M**ake disciples!” That is Jesus’ primary imperative at the apex of Matthew (28:19). The same verb is translated as “trained” in Matthew 13:52. The noun form, *mathetes*, frequently refers to Jesus’ followers who stay close to learn from Him and imitate Him (Matthew 10:25 cf. 1 Corinthians 11:1). Jesus defines true discipleship as abiding in His word (John 8:31), which involves behavioral training: “...teaching them to observe [obey] all that I have commanded you” (Matthew 28:20).

Jesus is the Lord with “*all* authority.” Certainly, “*all*” He commanded includes

Jesus’ most recent command, “Make disciples!” Therefore, every new disciple—with the gifts and opportunities given—is to make disciples who make disciples, who make disciples. Which teaching do these disciples pass along from generation to generation? All that Jesus commanded His apostles, namely the original Christianity of the New Testament.

In giving this Great Commission, does Jesus foresee our pluralistic aversion to words like “authority” and “commands”? Does He anticipate our modern concept of freedom, our right to vote on which commands suit us? Yes, He sees it all, including our

current challenges. Yet He emphasizes “*all authority*” and “*all that I have commanded*.” His absolutes give us just one choice: To become a committed disciple who abides in His word or to become a non-disciple.

We at World Bible School choose to be and to make disciples of Jesus. Our teachers and lessons aim to train in complete obedience to the Lord, to “take every thought captive to obey Christ” (2 Corinthians 10:5). The nature of true discipleship is to bear much fruit (John 15:1-8). This is how, despite today’s swamp of competing, confusing ways, the Lord is building His singular and solid Way.



It's not too late!
Order today.

**FIRST EVER
BIBLE
SALE!**
ONLY THRU
SEPTEMBER

\$3.99

WBS Follow Up in Italy

Jim Crain, WBS Gift Officer — ARGYLE, Texas

The missions committee of the Lake Cities church and I had a Zoom meeting with evangelist Franco Verardi. At our next WBS team prayer meeting, also by Zoom, I requested prayers for Franco's good work in Italy. That got the attention of Edie Connel, a coordinator for WBS' Follow Up Partners. She let me know that Jerry, a WBS student in Italy, had contacted her the week before requesting baptism.



Franco welcomes newborn, Jerry.

Through Jennifer, who grew up in Italy and speaks Italian, we contacted Franco and told him about Jerry. Franco lives 500 miles away but assured us that he would take the train to Pistoia that weekend and meet with Jerry, a resident of Reggello. On July 12, just one week after our Zoom meeting, Franco baptized Jerry.

Today, God's servants are blessed with technology that shares the life-changing Word and facilitates rapid connections. Note this excerpt from Franco's report: *Jerry took an online*

Bible course with "World Bible School." After finishing, he felt the desire to be baptized, but he didn't know how to do it and where to go. My church sponsor asked me if I could contact him to see if he really was ready to accept Jesus. It was an easy job; Jerry was very ready to be baptized. Without a doubt, Jerry was immersed in the baptismal waters, accepting Jesus for the remission of sins. In all this I have to thank the community of Pistoia, who has helped me a lot in taking care of this soul, showing true Christian love to a son of God who has just entered the Kingdom of God.



Jerry and his family

Former Muslim's New Life

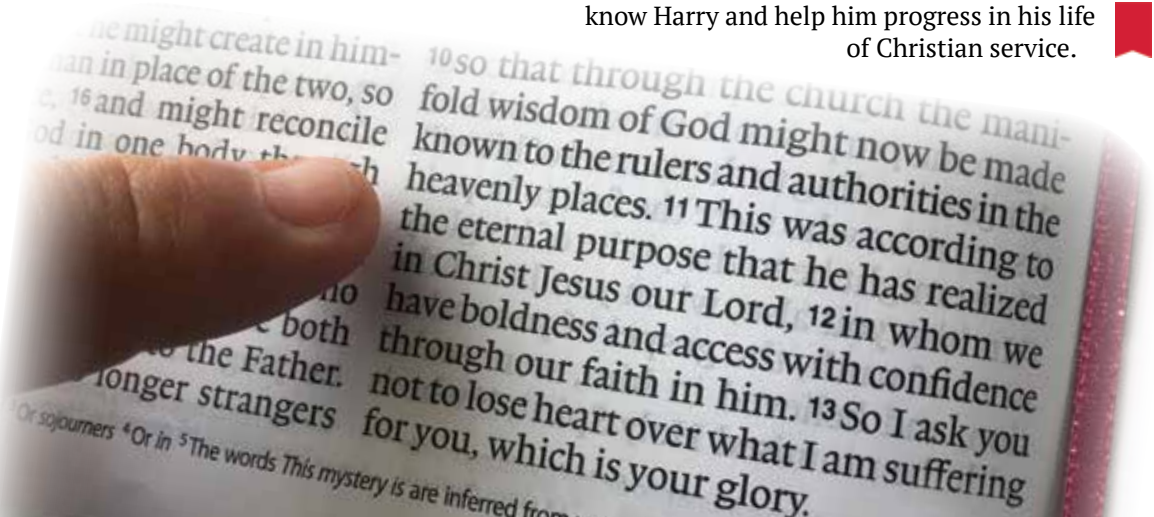
Edwin Biggers — TUCSON, Arizona

Harry, a Muslim military officer from the Middle East, was training in the U.S. The government cancelled that training program, leaving him unemployed and without legal status to stay. To return home likely meant death. Eventually he received asylum in the U.S. While still training, Harry had been given a Bible. He discovered God's eternal plan and realized he needed to be born of water and the Spirit. After visiting several churches, he eventually found a church of Christ and was baptized. They provided him with World Bible School material and connected him with a teacher. Harry is an intelligent, serious student. When I met him, I was amazed at the depth and breadth of his understanding of Scripture. I took him to our Bible class, and he told his amazing story about how God had been working in his life since childhood.

Since the government would not support him,

I provided financial support for his education. Harry completed his bachelor's degree in two and a half years, his master's degree in one additional year and his Ph.D. in another two years. He is now an Assistant Professor, also participating in national and international conferences on sociology. In his spare time, he mentors high school students, helping them with motivation and planning for their lives. Although he teaches in a public university, he is not shy about sharing his Christian worldview. He is also teaching his family about his Christian faith.

I thank God for the impact WBS had on his knowledge and understanding, and for the opportunity for me to get to know Harry and help him progress in his life of Christian service.



Those Cloudy Days

Hebrews 12 speaks of “so great a cloud of witnesses” encouraging us to “run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith.” That “cloud of witnesses” includes examples that inspire us, both those now with the Lord and living legends still among us. We pay tribute to them in the \$500,000 “Heroes of Faith” Match/Challenge, which doubles the effective impact of your WBS gifts up to \$1,000,000. The Match, mentioned previously in *Action!*, was launched in mid-May. Response has been incredible. At the writing of this article, we are nearing the goal. You can still be a part of this historic opportunity to apply \$1,000,000 to the fulfillment of the Great Commission. Do you know “Heroes of Faith” who are part of your cloud of witnesses? Remember and honor them today with a gift that becomes a life-giving river, sharing Bibles and Bible lessons with thirsty seekers.



This summer has been like no other. With the virus re-surfing, we wondered when these storm clouds might pass. In the meantime, we choose action, not anxiety. As Jesus said, “And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?” (Matthew 6: 27). As always, God’s word speaks directly to our concerns. By extension, World Bible School is truly relevant, involving donors new and old in meaningful progress. God can use your generosity to turn the storm into blessings that rain down from heaven, reaching the many new people who are seeking answers.



As we enter the last quarter of 2020, think about ways you can partner to reach our nation and the world. WBS recently received a significant gift from a couple who are lifelong supporters and have taught thousands of WBS students. Their message was, “We want our gifts to make a difference now and after we’re gone.” Another generous donor sent a heartfelt note that included, “Please use this gift for WBS. My prayer is that our country can be saved, and we can all turn to God for everything!” Amen to that!

Pat Brown is always available to talk to friends of WBS—individuals and churches. Contact him at pat@worldbibleschool.net.

The WBS Austin Dinner Is ON!

Remember, the WBS Austin Dinner is planned to be a sit-down, **IN PERSON** event as well as **LIVE STREAMED** online. You choose how you prefer to participate. One way or another, you’ll want to be a part of this inspiring dinner, reaching goals worthy of the Kingdom of God!



AUSTIN WBS DINNER Westside church of Christ (Evangelism and Outreach Center), Round Rock, Texas November 12, 6:30PM. Keynote: **Noel Whitlock**
The **LIVE STREAMED** event begins at 7:00PM at www.worldbibleschool.net/austin2020

RSVP early since seating may be limited (email rsvp@worldbibleschool.net or call 800-311-2006 or 512-345-8190, or go to worldbibleschool.net/events).

Unfortunately, the WBS Nashville Dinner is NOT ON...

With the counsel of area church leaders and WBS Coordinators, coronavirus-clouded circumstances have caused us to cancel this year’s WBS Nashville Dinner. We’ll let you know when the 2021 event is scheduled.

Meanwhile, wherever you are, right now you can be donating to complete the \$500,000 “Heroes of Faith” Match that Pat describes above.



Editor: John Reese

Action! (ISSN 8750-1333) USPS 004380 is published bi-monthly by the non-profit ministry of World Bible School. WBS is everyday Christians sharing Jesus with printed and Web-based Bible lessons.

16110 Anderson Mill Road · Cedar Park, Texas 78613
512.345.8190 · 800.311.2006 · fax 512.401.8265
Lessons: 877.393.0211 · info@worldbibleschool.net
Ministry site: www.worldbibleschool.net
Student site: www.worldbibleschool.org

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to World Bible School, P.O. Box 2169, Cedar Park, TX 78630
Periodicals Postage Paid at Cedar Park, Texas, and at additional mailing offices.

☐ I want to give this amount now:
\$ _____

Please use this gift:

- ☐ where most needed
☐ for Incentive Bibles

☐ I want to make a commitment by joining **Sowing the Seed**.

I'll give this **Monthly**:

- ☐ \$30/mo
☐ \$60/mo
☐ \$100/mo
☐ \$_____/mo

I'll give this **Annually**:

- ☐ \$300/yr
☐ \$600/yr
☐ \$1,000/yr
☐ \$_____/yr

Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____

Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Ph _____
(day) (night)

E-mail _____

Church _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

☐ I am a WBS teacher or ☐ I have been sometime in the past.

☐ Please charge my **credit card** for the amount at left.

- ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard
☐ Amex ☐ Other _____

(You can give securely online: worldbibleschool.net/give)

Card No: _____

Expiration: ____/____

Name (as on card) _____

Signature: _____

☐ I'm setting up **Automatic Bill Pay** from my bank.

☐ My gift is a **Tribute**. See the back of this form.

Tell me more about: ☐ will planning
☐ income-producing gift options

☐ I am } including WBS in my will
☐ I am considering } or other estate plans.

In Honor of...

Larry Bailey
Dean & Nelda Stewart

Stan & Kim Bennett
Sherrill & Suzanne Bennett

Steve & Laura Bennett
Sherrill & Suzanne Bennett

Charlie & Lori Brady
Richard & Greta Leard

Mr. & Mrs. Terry Chappell
Shelia Chappell

Harry & Janet Cybulski
Chal Burgess

The Brian Davis Family
Rex & Barbara Davis

Phyllis Dean
Betty Keeler

Mr. & Mrs. Neal Essic
Mr. & Mrs. James E. Essic, Jr.

Patsy Glover
Judy Whitt

Vara & Allen Gray
Ray & Kathy Boyd

Jean Grzeika
Barbara Brundage

Lloyd Hamm
Gilbert & Barbara Trollinger

Cyndi Hayes
Mark & Judy McCoy

Dr. James W. Hooper
Becky Clapp

Nelda Jo Byrd-Huddleston
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Byrd

Clay & Joanna Martin
Gary & Lonna Griffin

Joseph Pauley
James B. Meeker

Marilyn Plumb
Barbara Brundage

Ruth Plumb
Barbara Brundage

Adell Ranen
R. Dean & Nelda Stewart

Mary Roberts
Barbara Brundage

Edward Short
Channing & Sue Workman

Janet Sparks
Leah Jean Layton

Sue Steakley
Betty Chappell

Bob & Gay Taylor
Paula Hill

Jennifer Warpool
J. R. & Ellene Holler

In Memory of...

Willard Alts
Jason & Tina Carter

Willene Anderson
Lar Doyle

Crystal Andrews
Buster & Candy Clem

Burton Baggott
Lar Doyle

Ora Baker
Macel Edwards

Bobby Basford, Jr.
Bobby & Eva Basford

Barry Glenn Basford
Bobby & Eva Basford

Ernest & Ruth Basford
Bobby & Eva Basford

Al Beek
Jill Averitt

Betty Black
Larry & Becky Jeffreys

Philip Black
Ted L. Williams

Carl Bodey
Amy Dickens

Steve & Gladys Bottoms
Bobby & Eva Basford

Baxter Cagle
Elizabeth Fox

Vera Jeanne Carrizal
Fred & Brenda Heath
Charles & Olaine Petty

Nelda Carter
Lar Doyle

Gene Catterton
Carolyn Madeley
Rick & Mary Shur

Scott Chambers
Robin B. Leonard

Everett Clare
Bob & Alice Holland

Ken Clawson
Travis & Dorothy Henry

Shirley Coleman
Dutch & Sharon Hoggatt

Max Crittenden
Sue Campbell

Blanche Daughtry
Jerrel & Barbara Alexander

Helen Dial
Imogene Dial

Andrew Dickinson
Miriam Holcomb

Tyler Dodson
Anonymous

Ed Dunagan
Les & Bonnie Burkett
Chuck & Judy Gentry
Scott & Heather Hammock
Bob & Alice Holland
Dave & Marilyn Hughes
Dave & Vicki Roberts

Carol Fox
Bobby & Lila Newsom
Rick & Mary Shur
John & Ann Smithson

Ernie & Erin Gammon
Sonny & Marilyn Rommelman

Petra Garcia
Reid & Tot Holmsley

Vera George
Joe & Jane George

Doyce Gilmer
Lar Doyle

Wanda Goolsby
Lar Doyle

Erna Goucher
Mary Beth Pettay

Helen Hadley
James & Peggy Wilson

Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Hall
Jim & Sheri Hall

Amber Hattaway
Martha Jo Brewer

Fran Henley
Phil & Carolyn Madeley

Joann Herrick
Faye Bach

Betty Hill
Joe & Jane George

Franklin Hilliard
Joyce Sutherland

Charlotte Holtzclaw
Blake Holtzclaw

Naomi Hunt
Gerald Burrow

Bud Ivy
Carolyn Madeley

Lucas Tyler Jackson
Deborah Jackson

Guy & Joan Jones
Lois Robinson

Mike Kirksey
Gerald Brasher

Doris Knight
Bill & Vickie Seniker

Vivian Leith
Tom Rutledge

Brian K. Leonard
Robin B. Leonard

Cheryl Lee Lepard
Henry & Ella Vonne West

LeAnn Lester
Paul Lester

Virginia Lewis
Lar Doyle

Marie Loggains
Jimmy & Nancy Dye

Melvin Long
Lar Doyle
Oma E. Richardson

Jimmie Lovell
Norm Helmuth

Jerry W. Lunsford
John M. Lunsford

Margaret Martin
Carolyn Madeley

Georgia Mathews
Bucket & Sue Bailey
Jim & Virginia Vick

Samuel J. Mays
Judy Mays

Rosa McArthur
Charles & Margie Anderson

Don W. McKay
Don G. McKay

Sarah Monosky
Karen Monosky

Grady Moore
John & Lorene Hawk

Nell Moore
Gary Moore

Charles Morrison
Brenda Carver
Lawrence & LeDon Baird

Breanna Noojin Nix
Deborah Jackson

Jamie Norris
Macel Edwards

Bill O'Banion
Charles & Margie Anderson

Joe Owen, Sr.
Carla Owen

Roy & Mary Parham
Delbert & Mary Ann Turner

Doug Pate
Bobby & Eva Basford

Morris Paul
French Family

John Payne
Beersheba Church of Christ
The Steve Clark Family
David & Shelley Payne
David & Kim Guthrie
The Jackson Clinic PA
Danny & Merrill Lemon

Bill Pitman
Carson Pitman III

Larry Phillips
Edward & Mary Sue Kincaid

Harold Pratt
Carl & Sue Harper

Larry Raburn
Shirley Raburn

Diana Riddle
Sun Valley Church of Christ

David Risinger
Madeline Risinger

Bill & Bea Rogers
Linda Rogers

Clyde & Adry Ross
Don & Betsy Cannon

Rusty Russwurm
Sue Russwurm

Becky Sampley
Libby Fox

Malachi Schaefer
Ray & Jane Thompson

PaPa E. V. Scott
MaMa Velma Scott

Jeana Shaw
Barry & Aimee Williams

Mack & Sible Short
Bobby & Eva Basford

Timothy Wayne Sims
Dewey & Merle Sims

Leon Smartt
Faye Smartt

E. Dan Smith
Michael & Daphne Smith

David Snell
Ramona Tanner

Jim Southwell
Evelyn Pledger

Bette Spoonts
Happy Bailey

James Lynn Steadman
Deborah Jackson

Jack Stephens
Lar Doyle

Margie Stephenson
Gary & Pam Stephenson

Roy Story
Bob & Wanda Belonie

Dottye Suggs
Betty J. Anderson

Naomi Taylor
Jean Blevins

Dan Thomas
Joyce Thomas

Joann Thornock
Travis & Dorothy Henry

Peggy Tiner
Phil & Carolyn Madeley

Ron Tomme
Pat Mooney

Juanice Van Huss
Lar Doyle

Jennielea Tyler Waddle
Randol & Kay Inness

Mike Walle
Lori Walle

Terry Ward
Francille Buchanan

Leslie A. Ware
Rebecca Ware

Wanita White
John & Ann Smithson
John & Janice Wilkins

Faye Williams
Lar Doyle

Tex Williams
Thelma Anderson
Chuck & Donna Conley
Gary & Judy Bowe
Roy & Jane Bullock
Sam Hartline
Bobby & Rene Jones
Mr. & Mrs. J.W. Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Newby
J. C. & Dorothy Newland
Lois Robinson
Ramona Tanner
Van & Jean Tate

Mr. & Mrs. O.V. Woolard
Nancy Medlock

Cindy Wright
Pat & Lynette Brown
Rodger & Denise Chaffin
Jim & Karen Crain
Steve & Betty Gober
David & Cheryl Harper
Rick & Mary Shur
Floyd & Sandra Vanderford

Kathleen Yates
Joe & Jane George

Althea Yeats
Bud & Sue Hammas

John & Deloris Young
Kale & Janet Martin

Please make my gift a tribute.

Memorial Gifts and Honor Gifts

are ideal ways to pay tribute to a loved one's legacy or special occasions. At the same time, your gift will be used to "share Jesus" with WBS.

☐ I have completed my personal information on the back of this form.

☐ **HONOR GIFT** ☐ Birthday ☐ Anniversary
☐ Illness ☐ Friendship ☐ Other _____

☐ **MEMORIAL GIFT**

For:

Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____

City _____ ST _____

Please send a letter of acknowledgement to:

Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Their Relationship to Honoree _____

HERO OF FAITH: **Jimmy Allen**

(1930-2020)

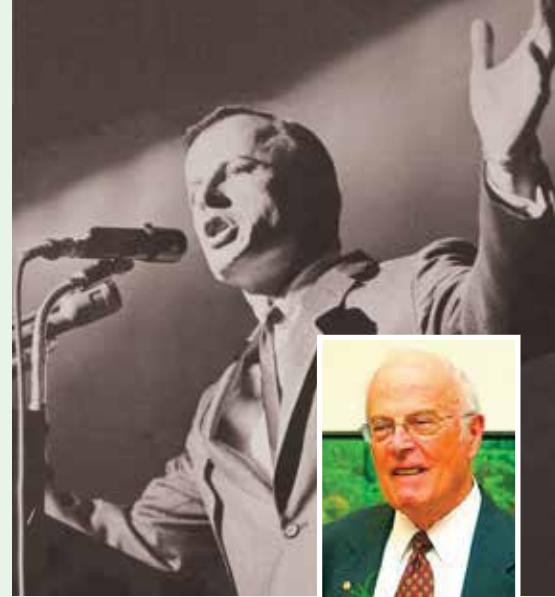
John Reese — CEDAR PARK, Texas

Like many others, Beth and I were blessed by Jimmy Allen's example, teaching and friendship at Harding College, as well as his support through the years. As I write, this is the day of his funeral in Searcy, AR, a day of inspiring memories.

Like Moses, Jimmy was not supposed to live. His father, a prominent politician, had an affair with a young stenographer. When she became pregnant, he demanded that she abort the baby. Instead, she heeded the counsel of her brother, Lott Tucker. The father rejected Jimmy all his life. Even Jimmy's surname, Allen, was a fiction unrelated to either parent. At age 11, a railway accident killed his mother. His aging grandmother tried to raise him, but without discipline. That was provided by the army, entered at age 17. He became

a staff sergeant at 18. In 1948, he chose Harding College, not for its values, but because the sports sounded good and his uncle Lott, not yet a Christian, was a student there. Jimmy took the class, *The Book of Acts*, was baptized into Christ and he was changed forever.

Through the years, the Lord has worked through Jimmy's passion to teach, in class and in person, thousands of Harding students (1959-2009). He preached locally and in 42 states and 7 nations. He conducted 50 city-wide campaigns that included huge stadium crowds. Some 50,000 responded, with at least 10,000 baptized. He wrote 13 books, including the autobiography *Fire In My Bones*, and he wrote frequently for this periodical, *Action*. In the 1960s, Jimmy and Marilyn served as "honorary trustees" on Jimmie Lovell's Board for WBS.



At today's funeral, his convert and colleague Jerry Jones said, "Jimmy was a powerful force, but without the support of Marilyn, his wife of 65 years, he never could have done what he did.... Jimmy Allen did not leave the land of the living for the land of the dead; he left the land of the dying for the land of the living."



Bible School and New Life Behavior courses. Unfortunately, most are barely eking out a living. Enter the WBS Study Edition Bible—a durable, inexpensive, quality translation with excellent study aids. It is an answer to prayers for a nation that is highly literate in English and highly motivated to seek God. The word of God is living and active, it just has to be placed into peoples' hands so that they can read it and transfer it into their hearts. It is a privilege and a calling to partner [through a match] with WBS and other Christians to provide 10,000 Bibles for prisoners and 10,000 more for WBS students. May the word of God lead many to the Word of God and may God be glorified and His kingdom increase in Zimbabwe.

Debbie Patek (WBS orders): I wanted to share with you that a dear brother in Nashville has placed a personal order for 1,000 ESV Bibles. He is providing them to three different places: Nashville Inner City Ministry, Potter Children's Home & Family Ministries, and Mount Dora Christian Academy and Children's Home.

Jerry, a veteran evangelist in Indiana, saw an ad and ordered the WBS Study Bible. His assessment: "This is the finest tool for evangelism I have ever seen."

Ed Jones: After a pre-marriage counseling session at the Market Street deli in Lubbock, I was leaving, carrying my folder and WBS Study Bible. A man spoke to me, "Hey, I see you have a World Bible School Bible!" Thus developed a new friendship with a brother and missionary in the Philippines. While we were getting acquainted, a Filipina sister in Christ joined our discussion. The moral of the story: Carry a little brown WBS Bible around with you. You can give it away, study with someone or maybe meet another Christian—and either way make new friends!

Hughbert Collier: I have been privileged to see firsthand the zeal and yearning that people in Zimbabwe, including those incarcerated, have for the word of God. Thousands are studying World

Agony & Ecstasy:

Atem Deng, a South Sudanese evangelist trained at Mutare School of Preaching, sent this image of a village where he works, in which 100 homes were burned down in inter-tribal war.



Taban James, a WBS evangelist in Uganda, sent this photo of thanksgiving for aid recently distributed in Palabek Refugee Camp. He said, "These people appreciated you all for extending your support [relief]. May God continue blessing you."





Courses Toward Teaching **all**



The apostle Paul had never met the Christians at Colossae. He only knew of them through reports, mainly from their first teacher Epaphras. Yet Paul played a vital role in discipling the Colossians. How did the Lord arrange for Paul to nurture and mature them from a distance? He led Paul to use *prayer* and *correspondence*. Colossians 2 describes Paul's struggle on behalf of disciples "who have not seen me face to face." It shows

the powerful result of his writing: encouraging them, uniting them in love, helping them "to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ."

That inspired writing, with similar correspondence—produced during Paul's prolonged lock-down in prison—proves just as effective today. That is why World Bible School has built its maturing courses on Ephesians, Colossians and related New Testament writings. The preparatory question behind these WBS courses was, "How did inspired writers fulfill their part in teaching new Christians to obey all that Christ commanded?" Research

included the systematic tracing of apostolic themes so that WBS courses would reflect their healthy balance.

The resulting courses, *The Family of God* and *Live a Life of Love*, are truly "Advanced"—80 pages each with in-depth cross-referencing. One elder said, "Those who come to us through WBS really know the Bible. I wish that were true of all of our members." WBS' Advanced courses double as correspondence and as quarterly (13 lessons) class study that encourages discovery and relevant discussion. The same is true for all WBS Supplements, a growing library of courses like *Covenant Promises*, *Covenant Considerations* and *Balancing Faith and Works*. Because WBS is non-profit, these quality products are very affordable. Order today by calling 512-345-8190 or emailing orders@worldbibleschool.net or going to www.worldbibleschool.net/orders.

Follow Up Partners

Edie Connel and Sherri Hays — WBS Follow Up Coordinators

World Bible School "Follow Up Partners" are faithful Christian volunteers who have been "registered, approved and activated" to assist WBS students who request help with baptism, further study and integration in a local congregation. Partners are not expected to do all the follow up visits. Rather, each Partner knows a region well and serves to link students with reliable Christians near them. You can learn more about the concept at www.worldbibleschool.net/follow-up.

At last count, 315 WBS "Follow Up Partners" serve English-speaking students. Each Partner has Internet access for rapid exchanges of information. As WBS digital learning tools link with the globally popular WhatsApp, the speed of follow up will accelerate all the more.

Besides the 315, at least 150 leading Christians function similarly with modern communications, though not registered formally. Many willing workers are connected to 18 WBS Service Centers. They see the results for the church's growth and they are eager to assist. Besides services for English-speaking students, there is the Spanish program (example: Carlos Hernandez), the Portuguese program (example: Tim Brumfield), the French program (example: Garrett McGilvray) and other programs.

In a sense, every Christian can and should help with follow up. If a contact comes your way and if you are willing to help—as in this issue's stories—then you are part of the Lord's network. Worldwide, many thousands are involved because they believe Jesus and His Great Commission, which includes, "baptizing them... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:20).



Bill Colwell presents World Bible School on the parking lot of the Kalispell church of Christ in Montana. Bill also produces the *Coordinator's Corner* bi-monthly email newsletter. It keeps you up-to-date on new developments and tips for effectiveness. Subscribe to receive it by email at worldbibleschool.net/coordinators-corner.

African Follow Up Continues World Bible School Envoy Ron Pottberg comments, "It does not cease to amaze me that in the middle of a pandemic worldwide, these [African] preachers are continuing to get results. It is always good to hear good news and to know that we all play a small part in God giving the increase." Photos, beginning left: **1.** Phil Palmer reports on Charles Oyungroth baptizing one (of five) recently in western Uganda. Charles says, "I would like to report that WBS is linking many students to the church and many are seeking baptism," also **2 & 3**, "Benard Ecret in Yabwengi reported to Geoffrey Oguttu at the Uganda Service Center 27 baptisms of WBS students." **4.** Tim Brumfield shows Samuel baptizing in Beira, Mozambique and, **5.** Yope Simon with smiling new-born in Pajok, South Sudan." **6.** Steve Gober's report about Alex Gunsalu in Malawi: "[Despite mail problems] he has been studying WBS lessons with people there and three were baptized over the weekend." These are samples of literally scores of similar photos.



Love Notes

Connie Dobbs: **My parents, Robert and Genevieve Bowles, were married on December 6, 1941, the day before Pearl Harbor was bombed. He fought in major battles in World War II. They were married 77 years before she died on Easter, 2019. Just recently, before he died on D-Day at 99, he was talking with a grandson. One great grandson had just been baptized the week before, so he asked, "Are all of my family Christians?" Hearing, "Yes," Robert replied, "Okay, I'm good now. I'm ready to go." Shortly after, he slipped into a coma and passed to glory.**



The Bowles

Joshua: **Mr. [Blakey] Bradley, Thank you for your faithful and diligent work during these dire times. During my time in jail I have taken [three prominent courses for prisoners]. They in no way compare to what I have learned and retained from WBS studies. Since I began these lessons, I have found myself quoting the lessons to people in conversations. The teaching of the Bible leaps from the page, it becomes alive. I do not know how to explain it. But only to say thank you.**

Jan Towell: **Just read through Action! again and have one thing to say: WOW! The very thought of 5 TRUCKS of Bibles is mind-boggling. I was glad to see that the WBS dinner next fall [in Austin] will be streamed since we won't be able to be there physically!**



Javed in India Teaches U.S. Muslim



Javed

Kella Jones — BURLESON, Texas

Javed lives in India and was raised a devoted Muslim. Throughout his life, Javed had many questions about religion. He and his sister found online World Bible School and the Lord changed their lives! Javed's sister was baptized and, after further studies with follow-up teachers, Javed obeyed the Gospel in August 2019.



Habib

Javed has been busy since then. He is now eagerly assisting WBS to help another Muslim, Habib, a resident of Arizona. They overcome the 12-hour time difference between Arizona and India. They are meeting and studying in a way only God could have enabled. Habib has many questions and is studying through the WBS Muslim course (paper). After that, he plans to return to online WBS lessons. It is amazing to watch God work by connecting two men, strangers from opposite sides of the world yet becoming brothers in many ways. Please pray for them and for Javed's family.

International Network

Virginia McPeak —
ORANGEVALE, California

JoAnn Simonsen —
SURREY, British Columbia

Using WBS Connect, the Orangevale, CA church of Christ recently targeted three



WBS' Google map of targeted Connect areas

areas in Washington State and British Columbia. Adhieu Achuo of South Sudan, now resident in Langley, British Columbia, responded to the Web Ads and was adopted as an online student by Virginia McPeak at Orangevale. The Bible's account of the Ethiopian eunuch convinced Adhieu that she needed to be baptized. Virginia had difficulty finding follow-up contacts near Adhieu. The closest church was in Surrey. Its Facebook page led Virginia to old friends in Idaho, former missionaries to Indonesia. They wrote their contact in Indonesia who turned out to be the brother of the preacher in Surrey! Soon, personal Bible studies were set up, with Virginia joining digitally by Zoom. Adhieu was immersed into Christ on June 13th at the Surrey church building. That congregation is nurturing her and reaching out to her family. For a seeker from **Sudan**, God connected **California** with **Idaho** with **Indonesia** with Surrey, **Canada**—another amazing example of networking!

WBS and the Challenge of Follow Up

John Reese — CEDAR PARK, Texas

During 35 years of experience with World Bible School, I have heard relatively few criticisms. Here is one that deserves a response: “WBS is all about baptisms. It does little to mature those baptized.”

In Matthew 28, “make disciples” involves “baptizing them” and “teaching them to observe all” Christ commanded. Jesus gave those instructions to the entire group, and I Corinthians 3 confirms the picture of a team effort. At Corinth, God used Paul as a planter, then Apollos as a waterer. Was Paul delinquent when he left Corinth (Acts 18)? Did Philip not care if the Ethiopian returned home as a lone Christian (Acts 8)? They certainly cared, even if they had no way to foresee solutions for ongoing discipling. But they fulfilled their respective assignments and trusted the Lord of harvest to give the growth.

make
disciples
who obey
all.

To obey “all” includes taking the Gospel to “all nations” and “to the end of the earth”—well beyond guarantees of a Christian presence for follow up. Are

we uncaring when we obey, even reaching “those who have never heard” (Romans 15:21)? The Lord knows the challenges. He also honors obedience and

answers prayers. In many cases, when missionaries finally arrive, their work begins with believing nuclei reached through correspondence. The credit is all His.

Not that we are complacent. WBS has spent over five decades building follow up networks worldwide. In the U.S., Edie Connel and Sherri Hays coordinate the WBS data bank of Follow Up Partners (page 6). In other nations, over 18 WBS Service Centers focus on follow up in student-rich regions, partnering with thousands of congregations and missions like the Gospel Chariots that serve 26 countries.

My wife, Beth, and I personally devoted seven years to full-time WBS field work. Our specialized teams in Southern Africa set up early follow up offices. Our experiences helped to develop WBS courses that include lessons for maturing disciples, based on the New Testament’s inspired follow up letters (also page 6).

You, the committed disciple, are a key to success. Wherever you are in the world, please help when a follow up request comes to you. Now, WBS LiteApp, linked to WhatsApp (the world’s most popular messaging system), will facilitate rapid communications between teachers, students and follow up partners. Get ready to receive the message that asks *you* to be God’s helping hand to a responsive student, fulfilling that vital part of the Great Commission.



You. Sharing Jesus.

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to
Action! World Bible School
P.O. Box 2169
Cedar Park, Texas 78630

upcoming...

I am with you

always.