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JUL 2021

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FACE FORWARD



When the days drew near for Him to be taken up,
He set His face to go to Jerusalem (Luke 9:51).

Jesus knew who He was. His identity had been re-affirmed at His baptism and transfiguration, and His disciples recognized His majesty (Luke 3:22; 9:20, 35). Jesus knew that suffering awaited Him (Luke 9:22). Yet He set His face toward Jerusalem and His execution.

In that context, Jesus demands of us the same resolve. “If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me” (Luke 9:23). We, too, press forward into all that God plans for us, both the suffering and the glory beyond.

Samaritans rejected Jesus “because His face was set toward Jerusalem” (Luke 9:53). We too must persist despite trials. In

today’s social climate, hostility is increasing. Fire tests the genuineness of our faith (1 Peter 1:7; 4:12). Like Jesus, we will endure because we know who we are. We know our mission. We anticipate our ultimate destination.

World Bible School re-affirms our identity in Christ. We still believe that objective truth exists, unshakably rooted in the Father and revealed by His Son—“the way, the truth and the life.” Confident in that reality, we set our faces to advance, to proclaim the truth that still sets sinners free. Our godly armor is not designed to cover retreat. “We are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith” (Hebrews 10:39). This *Action!* shares the spirit of 2 Timothy 1:7.

God gave us a spirit not of fear
but of power and love and self-control.

WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL ACTION!

PORTUGUESE PROGRESS

Editor's Note: *Tim Brumfield served on the mission team to Salvador, Bahia, Brazil (1984-1996). He was an instructor at Sunset International Bible Institute (1996-2017). In January 2018 he began working full-time with WBS. The Lord has used Tim's experience, zeal and connections to advance evangelism in Portuguese.*

BY **TIM BRUMFIELD** LUBBOCK, TEXAS

We are delighted to announce *Deixe A Biblia Falar* (*Let the Bible Speak* or *LBS*) for online teaching. I began to develop this Bible course in 1984. Practical use in personal work and in the School of the Bible of Bahia shaped it to meet the needs of Brazilian seekers. Over time, it became one of the best-known Bible courses among the churches of Christ in Brazil and neighboring countries.

LBS has been much-improved by Nilton Barretto. As a youth, Nilton took all our school's correspondence courses. In 1986, at age 17, he obeyed the Gospel. Since then, he has taught the course often, rethinking and restructuring it to be clearer and more attuned to the Brazilian culture. Nilton is integral to current World Bible School—Escola Biblica Mundial (EBM)—projects. In 2012, Nilton and I made a missionary trip to Mozambique to train workers to use *LBS*. Nilton has adapted the course for African Portuguese. When the pandemic struck in 2020, we began using the course online through class videos and questionnaires automatically corrected, and with interactions via WhatsApp.

We rejoice in more milestones: The WBS (EBM) Master Series in Portuguese has been updated to the newest edition. This Series is now in full use on the "EBM Lite" App. In Salvador, we have printed 10,000 copies of *The Way to Life* and 5,000 *God Has Spoken*, sharing resources with Daniel Neimar in Belo Horizonte. (Printing also takes place in Mozambique and Angola.) In March, the Brazil WBS Service Center became functional and Daniel Amaro there is doing great. He is completely managing campaigns to recruit Study Helpers who use Portuguese, and campaigns to recruit students, including printed ads complete with a QR code. We praise God for such powerful progress!



(above) Salvador team: McKinneys, Bontragers, and Brumfields
(below) Nilton Barretto in Mozambique



MATCH THIS!

The story is fascinating. D.L. was a dedicated Christian who was wealthy in spirit but not in money. All his life, he was faithful in what some might view as "little" roles such as serving as a janitor. His menial labors paid "little," but he was content. Suddenly, D.L. was named as the beneficiary of a wealthy estate derived from valuable

mineral rights. D.L. became a multi-millionaire overnight. Ever unselfish, D.L. reasoned, "For years, I got along just fine without this money. So, I don't need it now. I'll establish a trust and use the money for the Lord's work." His plan succeeded. Recently, D.L. passed away. A portion of his trust, \$1,000,000, is being split equally among ten

ministries, World Bible School being one. The gift comes in the form of an offer to match: "The D.L. Trust will match funds raised by WBS dollar for dollar up to the \$100,000 limit." Our story gets even better. See "Challenge and Match" (page 3).



"ONE WHO IS FAITHFUL IN A VERY LITTLE IS ALSO FAITHFUL IN MUCH"
(LUKE 16:10).

THEY TOUCHED HER HEART

BY **KELLA JONES** BURLESON, TEXAS

What impressed me most about Kathryn Grieve was her earnest desire to learn the Truth. She wanted with all her soul to know more about being born again. The studies from World Bible School had been amazing to Kathryn. They touched her heart like nothing before!

When Kathryn requested follow up in mid-April, I connected her with David Dennis, a follow up partner who lives about an hour from Kathryn's home in Tulia, Texas. David soon involved Tim Johnson, minister of Tulia's Central church of Christ. Kathryn's questions showed how much her Bible studies had made her think. On May 6, she met with Tim and some of the elders. Kathryn was baptized, having her sins washed away!

"EVERYONE FROM THE CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST HAS BEEN SO LOVING AND GRACIOUS!" SAID KATHRYN IN SHARING HOW THANKFUL SHE WAS FOR THE CONNECTION AND FOR HER BAPTISM.



Tim Johnson, of Tulia's Central church of Christ



SPEEDING THE WORD

My own copy of the Bible is something I always had. From an early age I would take it with me to Bible class, its light blue cover with gold letters proudly displaying, "Holy Bible." I never considered giving it away; it was mine. As an adult, however, I'm reminded in I Corinthians 13:11, *"When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child."* I realize that my mission is not to hold onto the Word, but to send it out.

Like Jesus in Luke 9:52 when *"He set His face to go to Jerusalem,"* I also need to set my face, my direction, my efforts, to things above, to God's great purpose. Paul urgently reminded the Thessalonians of their shared mission: *"Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you"* (2 Thessalonians 3:1). What a powerful statement!

That crucial mission continues at World Bible School. Daily, we strive for the word of the Lord to *speed ahead*. Looking at

the world, I see how desperately God's message needs to reach so many who are hurting and looking for hope. As we are midway through 2021, let's join together to set *our face toward Jerusalem and to speed the word forward*. Lives are depending on it, literally. Consider a one-time, a first-time, or a monthly gift toward "sharing Jesus" through WBS. Christ put you in His will. Is He in yours? Now and in the future, fuel the fulfillment of Christ's Great Commission to rescue souls that are eternally valuable.

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



Action!

EDITOR: JOHN REESE

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CHALLENGE & MATCH

Your response to the **CARE CHALLENGE** is fantastic and so encouraging! At this writing, we are within about \$200,000 of reaching the Challenge's million-dollar goal. That amount equals the inspiring example of donors who set up the CARE CHALLENGE.

Just when that goal is being approached, along comes

the Match (page 2) based on D.L.'s faithful generosity! A special friend of WBS, on hearing of the D.L. Match, said, "Let's double that amount! I'll add my \$100,000 to D.L.'s, increasing the true Match offer to \$200,000." In other words, this combined Match—still called the D.L. Match—aims to generate a dollar for every dollar you give. When you, collectively,

give \$200,000, the D.L. Trust and the special friend will donate to WBS the equivalent, making a total of \$400,000 for world evangelism. Let's aim to fulfill the entire Match—also completing the CARE CHALLENGE!—in July 2021. These funds will help to build the fully featured WBS App (page 7) and to fund marketing initiatives that

"share Jesus" by getting WBS Apps into the hands of as many people as possible in 2021 and 2022. Give online at worldbibleschool.net/match or mail your check to WBS., P.O. Box 2169, Cedar Park TX 78630. For stock gifts, please call Kevin at 512-345-8190 or email: kevin@worldbibleschool.net. For your gift to count for the matching purpose, please put "D.L. Match" or "Match" in the reference line on the check, or attach a note.

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INGRID INSPIRES US

Readers of *Action!* remember Ingrid Moyal. After a struggle with Lew Gehrig's Disease (ALS), Ingrid's address changed on April 2 from Pretoria, South Africa, to Heaven, the home of Jesus. The move was inevitable (as is true for us all in one way or another), but Ingrid made it inspiring for us all. At her funeral it was noted that her passing coincided with "Good Friday" and the hope of resurrection.

When Ingrid's active lifestyle was interrupted by ALS, she blamed God. Her internet search for answers led her to God's answer, Jesus Christ, learned through World Bible School courses and assisted by WBS study helper, Brenda Hatcher. As Ingrid's body slowly became paralyzed, she communicated by activating her special computer with her eye movements. Using just her eyes, she typed eloquently about her assurance of salvation, a blessed hope she wanted others to share. Here are excerpts that give a sense of her passion:

Written from my heart, I aim to inspire as many people as possible, to enter into the gate that leads to eternal life. I encourage everyone to receive the

gift of baptism, the eternal gift from above.

There are days where I find it difficult to get out of bed in the morning. I get up for my children, yes, but...this statement symbolizes how I feel at the moment: God is my Lifeline, my hope, my peace. With God all things are possible (Matthew 19:26).

Please don't ever take your life for granted!! Perhaps now is the time to do some serious introspection, soul-searching and finding out what's important in life and things you can do differently. The answer is in God's word.

Ingrid's last Facebook post before her departure to eternal glory was: *Blessed to say that I am a born again Christian! My soul sings for Jesus.*



Ingrid's compelling story is included in the WBS' picture book *Dreams Come True*, and also in the WBS movie entitled *Trapped*, viewable at worldbibleschool.net/trapped.

FACING FORWARD After Loss

Barbara Kee is an example worth emulating. She and her late husband, Doyle, were a powerful team. As a widow, she continues to press forward. Here is an edited portion of her report:

The students that had started the advanced courses with Doyle have continued and progressed very well, mostly by internet. One student, a Haitian here in the States, has just finished. Others in France, England and Benin are continuing. One of Doyle's previous students is teaching Doyle's courses in Togo. Another in the Democratic Republic of Congo has finished all the courses we have and wanted to begin the church in his town of Kikwit. Since his region does not receive regular postal service, I helped him print our first course in his town. Of the 500 he printed, 489 students

completed them. To be sure that every student was well taught, I asked three teachers from the Bible school in Kinshasa to hold seminars in Kikwit.

Since then, there have been around fifty baptisms. The church now meets every Sunday in Kikwit and my student is also teaching them every Wednesday and Friday. I believe that God wants us to use the talents and tools (including the internet) we have to spread His Word everywhere.



Doyle and Barbara Kee

SEE YOU SOON!

Harding University hosts Lectureship 2021, September 26-29. Organizers graciously have assigned World Bible School prime slots on the 27th to share cutting-edge evangelistic tools such as Mathetis and the WBS App. WBS and World English Institute host a popular lunch on the 28th. The meal is free, but tickets are required. Ask for them in the Rotunda at the WBS booth and at Lectureship Central, and in the Benson foyer at the Mathetis booth.



Plan to attend a WBS Benefit dinner this year!

The ever-timely theme is "The Cure: True Healing for the World".

Nashville - October 7 at the Sonesta Nashville Airport Hotel (formerly the Marriott)

Austin - November 9 at the Westside church of Christ in Round Rock, TX. **This in-person event will also be live-streamed**, so you are welcome to join us online.

...WBS Supplements

What should a World Bible School study helper send to eager students who complete the Master series? For years, WBS teachers had to turn to other sources. Now, WBS is moving forward with its own library of quality Supplements that serve three basic purposes:

1. To mature—"teaching them to obey all" Christ commanded;
2. To meet specific spiritual needs;
3. To provide class and group curriculum.

With its focus on Jesus, the Master Series sets a healthy context for related matters. Supplements now include *Lord Teach Us to Pray*, *Test the Spirits*, *Balancing Faith and Works*, *Covenant Promises* and *Covenant Considerations*. Each is an excellent stand-alone course with 13 interactive lessons, making it ideal for class and group study.

Your adult and teen Sunday School curricula can benefit immensely from these attractive but inexpensive Bible courses. A typical booklet costs 60 cents. Though not structured for 13 weeks, *Guide to New Testament Christianity* is another valuable resource. These six published Supplements can be ordered online at worldbibleschool.net/shop; by email: orders@worldbibleschool.net; or by phone: 877-393-0211. (This phone number is the only way to request free samples for evaluation. Call and ask specifically for the "Complimentary Supplement Sample Set.")

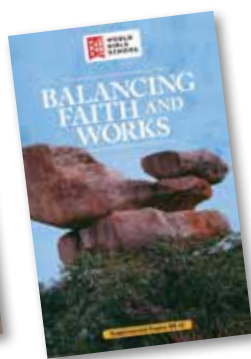
Editor's forward-looking note: In the September 2021 Action!, look for the announcement of two new Supplements that are being printed this Fall. Roles in the Family of God and The Mystery of Music (third in the Covenants series). **These two pending courses are not yet in stock and cannot be ordered.**



Imitate
Jesus'
example



Disciples
evaluate miracle
claims



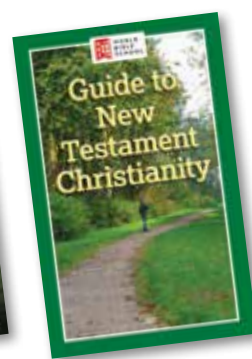
Divine answers
to human
confusion



Compare
Old and New
Covenants



Ramifications
of the change
of covenant



Biblical faith
and practice
today

FORWARD FACING Partnerships

In May's *Action!* we included two collages of conversion photos. Behind the Uganda photo is a story that exemplifies the value of partnership. World English Institute's *Update* begins the story this way: "In November 2019, Mary McKinney began teaching WEI lessons to Jackson Mayanja, a forty-year-old man from Buyende, having previously taught him the WBS materials." Mary is a prolific teacher, using both WBS and WEI. She contacted Isaac Sanyu—"a dedicated WBS follow-up man in Kampala"—who traveled ten hours to visit Jackson.

Later, Isaac brought the large red Gospel Chariot from Jinja. Opponents

had spread rumors against the red truck, warning that anyone immersed would "die immediately as a sacrifice to the vehicle." Jackson continued, "Glory to God that I was the first person to be baptized. It relieved people's hearts." Seeing that Jackson was not harmed, 29 others, including his wife Rita, were baptized into Christ that same day. The WEI *Update* concludes, "Praise God for Jackson and the new congregation, Isaac Sanyu, WBS, the Gospel Chariot, Mary McKinney and the other WEI teachers who are sharing their faith." To that list we should add Healing Hands International and a generous donor responsible for drilling a water well for Jackson's village. Amen, praise God!



The Gospel Chariot and WBS follow up workers in Buyende, Uganda

...Mathetis

While brother Tucson Redd serves from Oklahoma City, many other places feel his godly influence. Mathetis and Zoom extend his reach even more—with active participants in New York, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Texas and Arizona. Mathetis is WBS' new way of sharing Jesus and strengthening Christians through social media. Mathetis is especially designed to reach newer generations of Americans.

The March *Action!* reported brother Tucson's use of the Mathetis courses "Reaching Those Wondering What to Believe" and "Reaching Those in Need of a Savior." As a result of those Bible studies, one of his participants, Sharon

Bond, was baptized at the Harlem church of Christ, NY.

Here is the sequel: Again using Mathetis, Tucson shared Dan Winkler's course "Forgiven, Forgiving and Free" on Wednesday nights. Sharon invited her friends, Martel and Sydni Epps, to join. They too have been baptized into Christ at the Harlem church. Additionally, Tucson is having Thursday night Bible studies by Zoom with a man who recently joined his virtual group.



Tucson Redd

...Connect

"Connect" is WBS' method for you or your congregation to advertise Bible study in a targeted way. The Concord church of Christ in Concord, NH, targeted the area around its building for Connect Web ads. Within that area, these ads promote the free Bible courses and "connect" with online seekers.

Contact with Francina Race came as a direct result of that "Connect" advertising. Francina registered and became the

student of a study helper at the Concord church. She completed all the WBS lessons and then began attending Wednesday night studies online before attending in person. On her first Sunday with the Concord church, Francina chose to be baptized and has continued worshipping with that congregation.



Dennis Saultier
baptizes Francina

...worldbibleschool.org

With WBS' "Follow-up Program" constantly in motion, we continue to have more and more students connecting to churches of Christ. Recently, a student named Laura Smith was adopted by Jerry Howell. He has been studying with her online through *worldbibleschool.org*.

As Laura completed *This is Good News*, her eyes were opened to baptism's importance in the Gospel. We soon

connected her with the North church of Christ in Ft. Wayne, IN. Dave Hewitt (elder) and Ryan Joy (minister) were excited to study God's Word with her. After personal studies, Laura was baptized into Christ on May 16. Laura shared how comfortable the church family made her feel. Follow up coordinator Kella Jones concludes her report, "Listening to her loving desire filled with so much eagerness was so beautiful.... Even though Laura still had much to learn, she had absorbed the truth and the meaning of who Jesus Christ is and what Jesus did by dying on the cross for our sins."

In mid-May, 15 Sojourners worked on the World Bible School building in Cedar Park. Battling a series of storms, they took down the old deck out back and built a new one. Sojourners are Christians in retirement who travel in RVs to help churches, children's homes, Christian camps and schools and ministries like WBS. They are spiritual, a joy to work with and very hard-working—out-pacing many a younger worker. Thank you, Sojourners!



FACING FORWARD

Teaching with the WBS App

The next phase of the WBS Reboot, to be launched in the fall of 2021, is a new phone app for teaching students who can connect to the internet consistently. The WBS App will make teaching much easier for those who prefer using apps on their phones. It will open yet another door for thousands more students and provide an engaging way for new generations of Study Helpers to share Jesus through World Bible School. If you enjoy teaching using the website on a traditional web browser that will remain and will continue to improve. Thank you for your prayers and continued support as we press forward advancing technology for the cause of Christ. (See the related Match on pages 2 and 3.)



FORWARD LOOKING CURRICULUM



You. Sharing

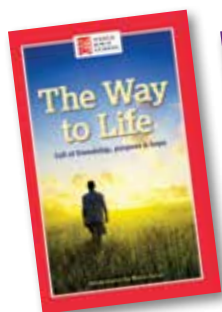
Curriculum development can take many directions. We can choose to focus on peripheral and temporal issues that time renders irrelevant. We can choose negative emphases, resulting in negative attitudes. We can air our opinions, which dilutes biblical content. We can dictate all the answers, which appeals to some personalities but does not help students to think through biblical subjects for themselves.

World Bible School chooses a forward-looking approach that endures well into the future. It equips everyday Christians.

It encourages students to find the Bible's answers for themselves, thus training them to handle other questions. We summarize our method and positive focus in three words: "You sharing Jesus."

*WBS ENCOURAGES STUDENTS
TO FIND BIBLE ANSWERS
FOR THEMSELVES,
THUS TRAINING THEM TO
HANDLE OTHER QUESTIONS.*

WBS MASTER SERIES



Short introduction



How God reveals Himself



Overview of the Gospel



Jesus as Christ, Son of God



Receiving salvation



The nature of the church



The nature of Christian living

Our Bible curriculum attempts to follow the Father's infallible lead. He prepared for the coming of Jesus. In a similar way, WBS uses four courses to lay a foundation for faith in Christ: *The Way to Life*, *God Has Spoken*, *This Is Good News* and *Knowing Jesus*, modeled after John's Gospel. Its sequel, *Born of Water and Spirit*, focuses on John 3 and Jesus' message of salvation. By this stage, responsive students have received three invitations to obey the Gospel. The in-depth maturing courses are expositions of Ephesians entitled *The Family of God* and *Live a Life of Love*. These Bible courses, also available in Spanish, French and Portuguese, constitute the Master Series, all based on the Bible's way to "make disciples," especially in its use of correspondence. (For WBS Supplements see page 6.)

UPCOMING...

Face & Spirit

